

*Since 1948 Exploring the wonderful world of beekeeping together*

## The Bee Buzzer

*Monthly publication of the*

### Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

VOLUME 73, NUMBER 3

EDITOR: CHERYL BURKHEAD

March 2021

#### General Meeting

**Monday, March 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](http://www.NEKBA.org) website.

**Main Program:** Impacts of Neonicotinoids on Bees-Daniel Raichel

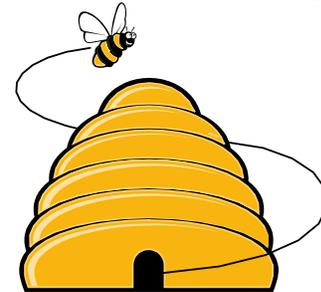


[Daniel Raichel | NRDC](#)

Daniel Raichel is a staff attorney and a member of the Lands & Wildlife program, focusing on protecting our nation's bee populations from the ever-growing threats to their health and existence—in particular, the use of bee-toxic pesticides. Before joining the Wildlife team, Raichel was codirector of NRDC's Community Fracking Defense Project and an advocate for the cleanup of industrial pollution in the New York region. Prior to that, he was a member of the Columbia Environmental Law Clinic. Raichel holds a bachelor's degree in English from Cornell University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School. He works out of the Chicago office. This website provides general information, not legal advice. If you need legal help, please consult a lawyer in your state. Daniel does not hold himself out as a specialist in a particular area of law or law practice. ...  
<https://www.nrdc.org/experts/daniel-raichel>

#### Beelines

By President Ed Darlington



In a normal year (if there is such a thing) the advice I am offering would have already been given; but because of the extreme temperatures we have experienced, schedules are delayed.

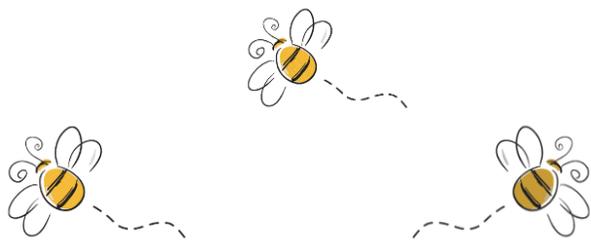
Our hives will become very busy this month. Please, please do an inspection soon to observe the condition of your hives and how much food they still have in reserve. It is most important that you monitor your hive(s) until they start increasing their food stores. Many hives starve in March.

While the weather is warming and tree buds are ready to burst, your bees (depending on the variety) will ramp up their activity. Important to understand that just because your bees are alive at this juncture, they are not necessarily "out of the woods", so to speak.

An average hive will require about one frame of honey per week to stay alive; that is until they start raising brood, then they require two frames per week. Most likely you will not observe full frames of stored honey, you will have to mentally piece together a puzzle picture and estimate what they have. If they appear short, make sure to monitor

and start feeding them. Watch your bees entering your hives. If they are bringing in pollen, it's a good indication they are starting to raise brood.

After you have observed the food situation, start looking for brood patterns: while it is nice to find your queen, it is not essential. Observe brood patterns, you are trying to make sure you have queen that is healthy and laying large numbers of worker eggs in a continuous pattern. This is important and what we call being "queen right", if your hive is not queen right, it is important that you take corrective action sooner rather than later. Because each situation is different, and if you don't have enough experience to know what your best course of action is, then do not be afraid to reach out to an experienced NEKBA beekeeper for guidance and advice.



**2021 Meeting Dates: (Starting Time is 7pm. Log in a few minutes ahead on Zoom.)**

- 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
- June 5, 2021 Fun Day via Zoom
- June 7, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- June 21, 2021



**O' Bee Gal**

We have talked about spring management at our Year 2 and Bee-Yond class in February and there are so many elements to spring beekeeping, we could probably have a talk every month about

some aspect of spring management and not cover it all! Nearly every component of beekeeping is decision making; evaluate the hive and decide on the right course of action. It's tough. It's also why when you ask three different beekeepers, you'll often get three different answers. So, it's also confusing. Spring feeding is just such an example.

First, should you feed? How much stored honey is still left in your hive from the previous fall? Do you have extra frames of honey (maybe from a dead-out hive) that you can give the bees to supplement the colony? Do you hope to split this colony to grow your apiary or to replace that dead hive? You won't know the answer to the first question until you look inside your hive.

Spring feeding primarily does two things: keeps the colony alive until summer flowers bloom and stimulates the queen to lay more eggs. It also stimulates wax building. If you are starting a package or giving a new split many empty frames to fill, feeding is mandatory. Feeding stimulates the wax glands of young worker bees and encourages them to build comb. (Reminder— NEVER feed any supplemental sugar syrup once you've put honey supers on the hive, even if you are giving the bees undrawn foundation.)

Some folks warn that if you feed your bees, they will swarm.... maybe. If you provide large quantities of syrup to a colony with abundant stores within the hive, they may become overcrowded and begin swarm behavior. If the bees are starving and you don't feed them, they will die. More managed colonies "winter kill" in March than in any other month. Why, because they run out of food and starve. Brood rearing is going strong and the girls will eat a tremendous amount of bee food to keep the larva nourished. They need abundant nectar and pollen for brood rearing.

How should you feed your bees? There are MANY feeder choices and not all feeders provide the same result. If you purchased a beekeeping kit, you likely received a Boardman style feeder. It fits in the entrance to your hive and holds a quart jar. This is really not the best choice. The syrup may drip slightly and entice bees from other hives to investigate the free food. If your hive is small (new

or weak) this may start a robbing event. Once started, it is DIFFICULT to stop and can lead to the death of the new hive.

Hive top feeders, often called Miller-style feeders, are a frequent choice. They provide large quantities of syrup (as much as 4 gallons!). This vat of syrup may spoil, mold or ferment, before the bees consume it and it is difficult to move when doing weekly hive inspections. If you choose this type feeder, never fill it with more than a single gallon of feed. The plus side is that the food reservoir is above the bees and robbing only becomes a problem if you set this tank aside while doing an inspection and the bees find it. (Cover the feed tank while doing inspections.) Access to copious quantities of syrup may lead to a “honey bound” nest/brood area and severely limit the queen’s ability to lay eggs.

The feeder style we like best borrows from each of these types. We use jars with perforated lids but put them directly above the top bars. By using the perforated lids, we control the flow rate of feed to the bees—little chance of them filling the brood area will excess feed as they often do with a Miller-type feeder. If we only want to provide a little stimulation for brood rearing, we will only punch a few holes. When we use these same feeders in the fall, we give greater access with more holes. The placement of the jars directly above the top bar allows access even when the temperature dips and bees are confined to the hive. Steve has built feeder lids to hold our jars but you can set the jar above the inner cover. You will need an extra deep super box to cover the jar and protect the hive.



The absolute worst choice for feeding your bees is “open feeding.” A strategy often employed by

commercial beekeepers because of its convenience, it can be a death sentence for struggling hives. Open feeding is known to promote robbing behavior and small colonies are always the favored target. When open feeding is used, who are you feeding and how much food is each hive getting? The answer may be that you aren’t even feeding your own bees; you might be feeding a feral colony or the neighbor’s bees. This is a known way to spread disease, viruses, and mites...YIKES. If your starving bees are confined to the hive for several days because of a cold, rainy snap during our spring build-up, the bees can’t fly to access the food resource you provided. Except for saving time, open feeding has nothing to recommend it. (Strangely, open feeding of dry pollen substitute does not launch robbing activity. Kansas bees usually have sufficient pollen reserves but that is also worth checking.)

What to feed? Although commercially prepared liquid feed is available, you can easily make a 1:1 sugar syrup using either beet or cane sugar. The bees need plain sucrose as their carbohydrate choice. Don’t get fancy and try to use organic sugar, brown sugar, or any other sweetener. Feed the bees and plant flowers!

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.

Our Beginning Beekeeping and Year 2 and Bee-Yond classes are done for the year and were a tremendous success. LOTS of people tuned in the day of the class but many more registered so I suspect they want to watch the videos at their convenience. GREAT IDEA! If you didn’t register, you can take advantage of an NEKBA membership perk. Members may view either class video for only \$5!

Thank you to the sponsors who supported our

educational efforts: Jordy's Honey (owner Robert Hughes), Next to Nature Farm (owner Chad Gilliland), Sweet Prairie Honey & Mentoring (Kristi Sanderson Owner and Master Beekeeper), Morford Lavender Farm (owners Jim and Wanda Morford) and The Bee Store (owner Tony Swagart). Hope you will all choose to buy local.

Thank you to all the presenters. This group represents about 300 years of beekeeping experience. This is a volunteer force like none other. Why do they do it? Love of the bees, love of sharing about bees, and help the next generation of beekeepers be the best that they can be. The next time you see them, please say THANK YOU!! Robert Burns, Kristi Sanderson, Jo Patrick, Cheryl Burkhead, Joli Winer, Steve Tipton, Ed Darlington, Noah Summers, Sheldon Brummel, Robert Hughes. With humble appreciation for all their help, Becky Tipton, special event coordinator. 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!

Becky Tipton, Special Events Coordinator

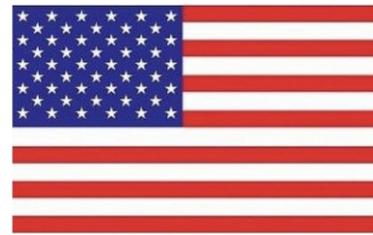


## Mentoring

Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney are mentoring at their home bee yard. The cost is \$10 per person with the money going to the youth scholarship and military apprenticeship programs. You must notify us by either email or text to let them know you are coming at [joli@heartlandhoney.com](mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com) or call/text 913-593-3562. You must have your own protective clothing. Typically, we go through our hives with you and do a hive inspection-- looking for the

queen, drones, workers, eggs, larva, sealed brood and honey and pollen. We'll share tips for using a smoker and a hive tool. We also talk about what to do during that month. Meetings are weather dependent. Our address is 19201 S Clare Rd., Spring Hill KS 66083

This year's dates are: Sunday, March 28th @ 2:30pm; Monday, April 12th @ 6:00pm; Monday, April 26th @ 6:00pm; Monday, May 10 @ 6:00pm; Monday, June 10 @ 0600pm; July-No Meeting; Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm



## Military/Veterans Apprentices Program

Greetings all and hope this finds everyone doing well, staying safe, and that the bees are flying. Hopefully this little cold snap will be our last this year and this is what makes beekeeping so interesting. Knowing how to prepare your bees for the winter months is very critical as this will determine what you will find in the spring and what you have learned to pull them through the winter months.

In 2018 when this program started, one of the requirements was to promote beekeeping and give a presentation to groups to promote our club and the importance of beekeeping. I had the privilege of going to Fort Leavenworth and being a small part of their presentations to the Fort Worth Rod and Gun Club, which was outstanding. When leaving the president of the club gave me a President's Chip with the words "You make a difference, Thank You" and on the side of the coin are the words Mentor, Conserve, Teach and Share. This coin has no monetary value but it earned a spot above my computer in a pigeon hole where I notice it each time I sit down at my desk. We, as either past or present veterans, beekeepers or humans, can appreciate this little token and its guidelines.

This past month I received calls from 2 veterans inquiring about our program but neither met our requirements which were set up to help those who could truly benefit from the program. In talking to them after losing their bees, they were in need of help and needed a mentor who could help them become better beekeepers. After reaching out to another Veteran beekeeper, one will have a mentor this year and I and another person will visit the other individual's place and see what we can do to help him do a better job of taking care of his bees. Mentoring to me is very important. Age is of no importance as we all try new things. It makes it better to have a person who can help and guide you while you are learning. As mentioned on this coin, mentoring is crucial to a person becoming good at what they do. Whether you are a veteran or not, I would be glad to have you contact me if you are needing help. We have those wanting help in different locations and having a contact for them is important. I along with others have done mentoring and found it very rewarding in making friendships and just plan proud to help another individual. Thanks to all our mentors for their hard work. Have a fantastic day.

Andy Nowachek, Military/Veteran Appr. Liaison



### Tips for March

- Consider helping a neighbor get started in beekeeping by selling them a split from your hive. You can buy a queen from a queen breeder or local bee supply. This could keep your bees from swarming later in the year.
- Resolve to keep better records for 2021.
- Equalize hives to minimize swarming; brood from healthy hives may be transferred to a weaker colony. Food frames could also be shared. **WARNING: never move frames unless you know where your queen is. Find the queen first.** Never make an exception to this rule.
- You should have several frames of brood in

your hives now. If you don't, then you have a problem. It may be your queen or there aren't enough nurse bees to take care of the brood. The queen won't lay more eggs than the workers can care for or keep warm. (this year may be an exception as many are off to a slower start)

- Scrape off your bottom board.
- Check the level of your hives, they should tip slightly forward.
- Entrance reducers can be removed any time after April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Check colonies for food-if they need food, feed. If they have food-don't feed unless you want to make some splits or increases-if you feed too much it encourages swarming. Know what your plan is for your hives before you take actions that have consequences. Bad weather can limit foraging opportunities for your bees. Feed 1:1 sugar syrup (by weight) to stimulate brood rearing -this translates to 1- 4 lb. bag of sugar to ½ gallon of hot water.
- Check pollen stores, usually pollen is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> frame in on both sides-the outside frame is usually honey and the next frame in is usually pollen.
- Put a swarm trap in your bee yard. Bees are valuable.
- Evaluate your brood patterns to decide if you need to requeen your hive.
- Reverse your brood chambers if and only if your brood is all in the upper box-if it is in two hive bodies then leave it as it is.
- Replace any old or damaged comb-specifically any comb that has been damaged by mice.
- If you plan to treat for varroa mite, it is best to treat early when you have lower bee populations.

***If you care about us, as we care about yous, 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.***

## Meet the Beek



I grew up in the 1980's and 90's on a farm west of Jefferson City, MO. In 1982, my grandfather came up the driveway in his old F-150 with six hives, an extractor, and other beekeeping miscellany. He had driven overnight from St. Paul, MN and announced that my father, David Urich, was now a beekeeper. The first issue my dad recalled was that each hive contained honey supers and weighed 300lbs. Dad wrestled the hives from the back of the truck, checked out a book on beekeeping from the public library, and began a journey that would last two decades.

The first memory I have of beekeeping is using the heated decapper planer. Dad coached me to pull it smoothly across the frame without cutting too deeply into the comb. I learned that it's okay to lick your fingers but not the planer. Honey extraction was also not without incident. The stainless-steel hand-crank extractor had open face gears and I ground my left pinky finger down to just above the first knuckle joint. Young bodies are resilient and because I had not ground my finger past the first joint, the ER doctor advised that it would grow back – and it did.

The second memory I have of beekeeping comes from a warm mid-July day in 1990. The dearth came hard and fast that year and the bees had some arguments against the removal of their honey stores. We always extracted in the kitchen of our early 1900's farmhouse. Old homes are porous and the bees sensed the sweet fragrance of comb and liquid honey. They covered all the

downstairs windows with such thickness and intensity that the glass vibrated.

My dad became the scoutmaster of the local troop and the Boy Scouts all earned the beekeeping merit badge during the mid and late 1990's. The Boy Scout manual taught me technical information about beekeeping, the differences between workers, drones and the queen, and fundamental beekeeping tasks throughout the year. By 1995, Varroa mites had become established in central Missouri and less was known about cultural and chemical practices to mitigate the impact of mites on bee colonies. It became difficult to keep bees alive. In 2000, my dad sold his hives, beekeeping equipment, and finger-grinding extractor to another young father and I was off to college.

Fast forward 20 years and I decided to buy four nucs and two packages and become a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation beekeeper. I am a middle school principal and beekeeping seemed like an excellent way to unwind after busy days with students, teachers, and parents. The fundamentals of beekeeping, which I learned from my father, have reasserted themselves and I have fallen off the deep end into the hobby.



Beekeepers provide advice in these columns and I will echo past admonishments to join NEKBA and attend bee school. Allow yourself to benefit from the experience of club members and mentor others where possible. My contribution is this: Treat for mites and your bees will probably live.

Bees cannot read; thus, they do not always adhere to expected behaviors as outlined in beekeeping books. However, a heavy hive with a <1% mite count and a younger queen will most often survive the winter. The modern beekeeper can choose from a variety of commercially available chemical and organic treatments which will give good control of the Varroa mite; provided they are administered according to the manufacture's specifications and best practices. In my yards, I treat exclusively with oxalic acid vaporization using the ProVap 110.

I love the rhythm of beekeeping. These early months are a time of anticipation and planning for beekeepers of all skill and experience levels. The essence of spring is revival and renewal of living things and traditions. As the bees rear brood and begin their timeless annual cycle, two generations of beekeepers will come together as my dad joins me to shake bees and prepare nucs.

Tim Urich operates T Creek Bees & Honey LLC east of Topeka, KS Facebook: @tcreekbees [tcreekbees@gmail.com](mailto:tcreekbees@gmail.com)

## **ASK QUINBY & REMI**



**Dear Quinby and Remi- I listened to the Q and A Monday night and both the First- and Second-Year beekeeping classes and I just can't decide if I should treat my hives this spring for varroa. What do you suggest?**

**Quinby and Remi answer:** Great question. We think that spring treatment is all about knocking

the mites down so that your hives don't crash during the honey flow or before you can get them treated in the fall. But you need to do a powdered sugar test to see what your mite level is. You shouldn't just treat; in fact, many local beekeepers don't treat in the spring but do just treat early in the fall. The best directions are from the University of Minnesota Bee lab, sugar roll (we just googled it and it came right up). If you want to treat this spring, I suggest using Apiguard, Formic Pro or Mite Away. I would steer clear of ApiVar Strips, Checkmite and Apistan as they are very harsh chemicals. Those methods of treating have been around for a long time and those chemicals are no longer effective on the mites. Residues are also being found in wax with all these chemicals. We recommend that if treating in the spring that you have your treatments completed before making your splits or requeening. Or treat after you have made your splits but after your new queen has been accepted, about 7 days after she starts laying. We think the chemicals may interfere with queen acceptance. So, if you need to requeen a nuc as soon as you see your queen laying you can start your treatments. Those of you purchasing nucs this year make sure and test those nucs to check mite levels and treat if necessary. In this situation since your queen is already laying you can treat immediately.

It is our recommendation to do an oxalic acid dribble on package bees. We suggest doing the dribble after you install your package, after queen has been released and is laying but before you have sealed brood. This is usually about 7 days after your release your queen.

For 5 hives:

8.75 grams of Oxalic Acid

6 oz. of Hot Water

¾ cup of sugar

Dissolve the Oxalic in the hot water then add your sugar and stir to dissolve the sugar.

Fill your syringe with 50 ml of solution

Dribble it between the frames where the bees are

**Dear Quinby and Remi— Should I feed my bees this spring?**

**Quinby and Remi answer:** First you need to ask yourself why you are feeding. If your bees are hungry and they don't have very many frames of honey, then yes, you should feed. If you want to

take a split from your hive and you need to boost the population, then yes, you should feed as feeding stimulates the queen to lay more eggs. If you feed and you already have plenty of honey in there the queen will accelerate the egg laying and the bees may swarm. If you need to feed, the spring sugar mixture is 1:1 by weight so 4# of sugar to 4# of water (1/2 gallon). If you had a dead out during the winter and you had honey in that hive you can use that honey in your hive, in splits or in your package bee. You may want to still feed to stimulate your queen.

Quinby and Remi are happy to answer your questions. You may contact them through Joli at [joli@heartlandhoney.com](mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com).

### Youth Scholarship Update



The 2021 youth scholarship students have gotten their beekeeping equipment for this year. They received their bee suits from Dadant, and I had several send me pictures of them in their bee suits, holding their smokers and hive tools! Several have begun putting their hives together. Several families are getting together at Steve Messbarger's wonderful workshop. We have such a great group of students, families, and mentors. Thank you too all of you.

The 2020 Students will benefit from another year of mentoring. All of them have completed their presentations to the club. We've decided to continue our mentoring to help them through whatever the need is in the spring. It could be requeening, replacing a hive that died over the winter, splitting the hive, or just management. As

we all know, year two is quite different from year one and we have decided to address that.



### The Mystery of Bees- Joli Winer

I love to read fiction, mostly mysteries, but I will say that I have branched out some during COVID-19 to include just fiction. Imagine my surprise when I received a book in the mail from Tammy Horn Potter.

Tammy was our KHPA guest speaker in October. She is the Apiary Inspector from Kentucky and is an author in her own right. The book she sent me is by an author that I had written about several years ago, Abigail Keam.

Abigail is a beekeeper, from Kentucky, and is a good friend of Tammy's. Abigail has won 16 awards for her honey at the Kentucky State Fair. Several of her books have beekeeping featured predominantly as part of the mystery. The series of books is a Josiah Reynolds Mystery. The first book "Death by Honey Bee", was the first one I read. The detective, Josiah, is a beekeeper.

Tammy sent me "Death by Derby", which I am just now reading. I love the bee angle. If any of you come across a book that is a mystery or fiction that

touches on beekeeping or bees, please share it with me at [joli@hearlandhoney.com](mailto:joli@hearlandhoney.com). Also, if anyone is interested in a monthly zoom fictional bee book club let me know. It is something I have thought about for years.



### The Honey Pot

by Marlene Pantos

#### Crunchy Cabbage and Apple Salad

- 1 c. diced celery
- 3 c. shredded cabbage
- 1 apple diced
- 1 c. salted peanuts
- 1 c. dried cranberries

Toss together above ingredients. Add dressing, stir and chill.

Dressing:

- ¼ c. oil
- ¼ c. cider vinegar
- ¼ c. honey
- 1 tsp. salt

Shake well and pour over salad.

We like this salad for its crunch, tang, and sweet combination. Enjoy!



#### Beekeeper of the Year-2019

The 2019 Beekeeper of the Year was presented to Jo Patrick at our February meeting. Yes, 2019!

Jo has faithfully served the club in so many capacities. She has been secretary, honey plants chair, and now Funday coordinator. During her

time with the club, she has mentored many beekeepers and been on many committees. She's a great volunteer and has added much to the NEKBA family of volunteers. Congratulations Jo!



### The Hope for Warmer Days

Spring is just around the corner. With each passing day, the itch to start cleaning up leaf debris and cutting back perennials in your landscape beds seems pressing. Be careful and don't jump the gun too early. Two-fold, the insulative quality of the leaf litter and spent plant parts from last years growth in your flower beds plays a critical role. As soil and air temperatures continue to rise, new growth begins to poke forth from the rootstock. Young tender shoots and leaves are very susceptible to frost. Cleaning your landscape beds too early could set back any plants that push forth early growth before the last hard freeze. Another benefit to leaving old stems and leaf litter intact are the next generation of young pollinators. Native bees overwinter eggs in the hollow stems of perennial flowering plants. Butterflies will lay eggs in the leaf litter and at the base of spent plants. The ground litter acts as insulation protecting the overwintering eggs and offering early protection for newly emerged larvae. As good stewards of our natural resources, we can improve overwintering numbers of our native pollinators by holding off until warmer temperatures allow emergence and the insect life cycle continues. If Spring fever has a hold of you and cleaning up your landscape beds is essential early, keep the litter debris instead of bagging it up or burning it. Find a corner of the yard and keep your clippings and leaf litter until mid to late April. Native pollinators and beneficial predatory insects will benefit and be plentiful for the upcoming Summer months.

Some of our early pollen sources are on the cusp of flowering or have just started. The light-yellow pollen from silver maples and grey brown pollen granules from red maples will be some of the first

to be brought back to the hive. Shortly behind, light grey pollen from elm trees and lemon colored pollen from willows will be seen crossing the landing board in the pollen sacs of honeybees. Other color variations include the orange-yellow color of flowering crocus, orange-red color of snowdrops, and the rainbow pattern of purple, purplish-red, red, and orange-red from henbit that covers fallow crop fields in the early Spring. Take time out of your busy day and grab a lawn chair. Set up beside your hive and watch the many different color variations of pollen. Put your

detective skills to the test and write down all the color options you see and afterwards research what the bees have been collecting pollen from. This will help you to be a better beekeeper. Noticing what the bees are bringing in clues you in to the different resources bees have at their disposal. If there is little variation in pollen color, then the thought to plant more early Spring pollen source plants will improve the local habitat for your bees and insure a good early food source.

Chad Gilliland- Honey Plants Chairman

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## 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](http://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](mailto:Jo@brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net)



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



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](mailto:sandersonk09@gmail.com) for pricing and appointment times.

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## 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

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## 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.

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## JORDY'S HONEY

[Beekeepers.com](http://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](http://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](http://QueenBees.com) to order your Queens. We are available Monday-Friday 9:00-4:30, Saturday 9:00-12:00. Robert Hughes, 14054 W 107<sup>th</sup> St, Lenexa, KS 66215, 913-681-5777 or email [info@Beekeepers.com](mailto:info@Beekeepers.com)

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## 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](mailto:hardware@sunflower.com)

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## 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](mailto:gphfarms@gmail.com) or order online at [goldenprairiehoney.com](http://goldenprairiehoney.com)

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## 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](mailto:nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com) or call Chad Gilliland at 785-491-1978. Come check us out at [www.nexttonaturefarm.com](http://www.nexttonaturefarm.com)

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

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

## Address Service Requested

### Meeting via Zoom

Monday, March 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](http://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](http://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.

#### **2021 Officers**

President: <b>Ed Darlington</b> , 2804 E 174th St., Belton, MO 64012	<a href="mailto:edarlington49@gmail.com">edarlington49@gmail.com</a>	816-331-4934
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2nd VP (Librarian): <b>Cecil Sweeney</b> , 19201 S Clare Rd, Spring Hill, KS 66083	<a href="mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com">joli@heartlandhoney.com</a>	913-593-3851
3rd VP (Honey Plants): <b>Chad Gilliland</b> , 23338 Kissinger Rd, Leavenworth, KS 66028	<a href="mailto:nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com">nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com</a>	785-491-1978
Secretary: <b>Janet Campbell</b> , 2880 SW Plass Ave., Topeka, KS 66611	<a href="mailto:jensnana@rocketmail.com">jensnana@rocketmail.com</a>	785-266-2763
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Special Events Coordinator (Class): <b>Becky Tipton</b> , 9491 X Road, Meriden, KS 66512	<a href="mailto:bstbees@embarqmail.com">bstbees@embarqmail.com</a>	785-484-3710
Special Events Coordinator (Funday): <b>Jo Patrick</b> , 611 E Sheridan, Olathe KS 66061	<a href="mailto:brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net">brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net</a>	913-645-8947
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**Visit our Website at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org). Save time. Re-new on-line.**