



Since 1948

*Exploring the wonderful world of beekeeping together***The Bee Buzzer***Monthly publication of the***Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association**

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EDITOR: JOLI WINER

FEBRUARY 2018

General Meeting**Monday, February 19th 2018****7:00 p.m.****Presentations from****Youth Scholarship Students****JR Newton and Cecilia Knight****General Program:****Spring Management for****Maximizing Colony Resources****Stuart Dietz Presents**

Douglas County Fairgrounds Bldg. 21N

2110 Harper St, Lawrence KS

Our first 15 presentation will be two of our scholarship students. JR Newton and Cecilia Knight will both give their presentations. The main presentation will be "Spring Management for Maximizing Colony Resources" by Stuart Dietz.

The spring following graduating from high school after the winter semester, Stuart worked for Howard Weaver & Son's, who produced mostly Caucasian and Midnite queens and package bees

He started beekeeping in 1973, and built up to 350 colonies by 1983, bottling and selling about 30,000 lbs. of honey each year in the Topeka area. He worked under Gary Ross in the Kansas Apiary Inspection Program for three years. They made the first documented discovery of varroa in Kansas in 1992. Today, he and his wife Nita keep about 50 colonies for honey and sell a few nucs each year.

Directions: The address is 2110 Harper St. It is easily accessible from 23rd Street, turn north on Harper Street and it is just a few blocks. We are in Building 21 North which will be on your left you turn into the fairgrounds.

Beekeeper of the Year-2017

At the January meeting the Beekeeper of the Year award was presented to the Spurlin Family. This family joined us when their daughter Elizabeth was given a youth scholarship award several years ago. Since that time the family has worked very hard for the association. Dixie "carries the coffee pot" and makes our beverages for each meeting. Frequently her husband Dale is the first one to start setting up chairs. Son, Nathaniel has repeatedly helped with the sound system. This family epitomizes what the Beekeeper of the Year Award is about. Every thing that anyone does to volunteer for the club is the most important thing- no job is too small and each and every job is important.

Beekeeping Class March 4 & 11

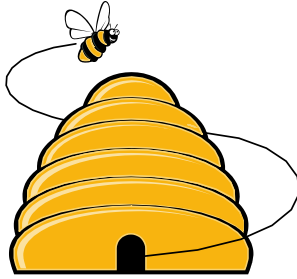
I hope that you have all sent in your money for this year's beekeeping class. Just remember that you don't know it all—about beekeeping that is. There is always more to learn. Sometimes hearing the same talk but presented by a different person can really help make a certain aspect of beekeeping clearer. So even if you have attended the Beginning Beekeeping class before we want you to consider taking it again. If you hear it enough times eventually it will sink in. Detail in this *Buzzer*.

Kansas Honey Producers Meeting**March 9 & 10 2018 McPherson KS**

Thinking of expanding your beekeeping business? You won't want to miss the KHPA meeting. Dr. Dewey Caron will be a guest as will Randy Oliver. Randy writes for the American Bee Journal and is currently doing research on Oxalic Acid. Also, the KS Dept of Agriculture is presenting about how to establish a certified kitchen and K State presents on what they can do to help with you value added food products! Details in this *Buzzer*.

Beelines

By President Steve Messbarger



I'm hoping it's a good sign, that as I was checking some bees the other day, I saw my first three robins of the year! I hope spring is close behind. Like they say in the Midwest if you don't like the weather, wait fifteen minutes and it will change. We've had some up and down weather this year and I hope the real cold spells killed some of the ticks and nasty bugs out there. I have one yard so full of ticks that I can't step out of the truck without one crawling on me. I hope the cold weather helps.

This is the time of year you really need to keep an eye on your bees. We hear of people say my hive was doing great all winter and now that the weather warmed up my hive died. It may warm up but still there's no food source out yet and your bees may have used up all of their stored honey and end up starving. March is the month to watch out for hives with low stores.

I can't tell you how excited I am not only for our beginning beekeeping class but also for our guest speakers for Funday in June. We've had some great events in the past but I think this one will top all of the previous Fundays we've ever had! I hope everyone can make it. Our board members keep working hard on these events to get everything finalized. I would like to personally thank each and every one for their hard work and dedication.

Our Military/Veterans apprenticeship is starting take off thanks to Andy Nowachek I think this will become another great NEKBA program. Terry Collins has assigned mentors to all our scholarship students. It looks like a good start and some great kids to start working with. We also have a mentor's class coming in the near future. If you're interested

in becoming a mentor and you meet the requirements, we will let you know when we will be having classes so you can sign up.

Don't forget to renew your membership, it's that time of year and last notices will be coming out. Next meeting will be another good one so I hope to see you there.

As always bee's first

Military/Veterans Apprenticeship Program

By Andy Nowachek

My committee of Cecil Sweeney, Steve Messbarger, Al Abts has been hard at work pulling this new program together. This is a way for us to honor our servicemen and women by providing a hive and a mentor (for two years). We have modified our youth scholarship application and requirements to better meet the needs of this new Military/Veterans Apprenticeship program. We have contacted several veteran's groups to help us find qualifying participants. We have already received so much support from members offering to be mentors. We are looking forward to this becoming a big part of our association.

Bio for Dr. Gard Otis – one of our Funday Guests

Dr. Gard Otis is a professor in the School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph. While attending Duke University (Zoology, BSc, 1973), he "discovered" entomology and has dedicated his career to teaching and research about insects. He studies the ecology, behavior, and evolution of insects, with an emphasis on honey bees, their pests, and butterflies. In graduate school (University of Kansas, PhD, 1980) he studied rain forest butterflies and Africanized honey bees in Central and South America. Of his research, he is most proud of his thesis study of the swarming behavior of honeybees; the breeding project he oversaw 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 a strong interest in beekeeping development in Asia. In 2014, his efforts to improve the lives of rural Vietnamese farmers through beekeeping were recognized with an award from the Government of Vietnam.

NEKBA Cookbook Fundraiser Buzzing Around the Kitchen Honey Cookbook



The cookbook committee has been hard at work on our cookbook. We are calling it *Buzzing Around the Kitchen*, Honey Cookbook, with Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association displayed on the cover. We have a wonderful cover design, and have chosen some great dividing pages. All we need from you is MORE RECIPES! To help you submit your recipes, the committee will have a station with laptop set up at the next NEKBA meeting, February 19. We will be glad to help you navigate the web site or enter your recipe for you. You may also hand us a copy of your recipes and we will enter them for you!

If you aren't coming to the meeting you may

1. Email your recipe to marlenepantos@yahoo.com
2. Snail mail a copy of your recipe to Marlene Pantos 2920 SE Stubbs Road, Tecumseh, KS 66542
3. Hand deliver to Marlene at the NEKBA meeting.

All recipes due to by April 1, 2018. Proceeds to benefit scholarship and apprenticeship education programs.

Marlene Pantos, Janet Campbell and Becky Tipton

This may be your last issue if you have not renewed your membership yet.

2018 Meeting Dates

Meetings are held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds at 2110 Harper St. It is easily accessible from 23rd Street, turn north on Harper Street and it is just a few blocks. We are in Building 21 North which will be on your left you turn into the fairgrounds. Unless otherwise stated.

- Sundays March 4th and 11th 2018 Beginning Beekeeping Class-Dr. Dewey Caron, guest on the 11th
- Monday, March 19th, 2018, 7 pm
- Monday, April 16th, 2018, 7 pm
- Monday, May 21st, 2018, 7 pm
- Saturday, June 2nd, 2018 Funday Guests include: Dr. Marla Spivak, Mark Winston, Dr. Jose Vila, Dr. Gard Otis, Dr. David Roubik and of course Dr. Chip Taylor-whom we are honoring for his years of service to the beekeeping industry. These are all of his doctoral students. Also, Dr. Judy Wu-Smart and Dr. Marion Ellis will join us
- Monday, June 18, 2018 (Flory Meeting Hall) 7 pm
- Monday, July 16th, 2018, 7 pm
- Monday, August 20th, 2018, 7 pm
- Monday, September 17th, 2018, 7 pm
- Monday, October 15th, 2018, 7 pm
- Monday, November 19th, 2018, 7 pm
- Monday, December 17th, 2018 (Flory Meeting Hall) 7 pm

Funday 2018 Update Saturday June 2nd 2018

"Chips off the Old Bloke"

The committee has been hard at work securing guest speakers. We have the flyer on the website www.NEKBA.org but not the registration form yet. We are working out details to have an optional dinner on Saturday night but that has not been completed. Google our incredible guest speakers-Chip Taylors doctoral students-Dr. Mark Winston, Dr. Gard Otis, Dr. Marla Spivak, Dr. Jose Villa and Dr. David Roubik. Also joining us are our favorites from nearby Nebraska; Dr. Judy Wu-Smart and Dr. Marion Ellis. Mark your calendars-this is a don't miss event.

Spring Divisions (photo by Robert Burns)



How to Make Spring Divisions (Looking back at our roots)

Respectfully re-submitted by Robert Burns
(Re-printed from NEKBA's *The Bee Buzzer*, February
1980 page 5 – no author given, Editor: Maynard D.
Curtis)

Recently, I was fortunate to stumble upon this practical article from an old NEKBA newsletter in the archives. It seems consistent with how we'd suggest making divisions 38 years later from the original printing of this article in the NEKBA monthly newsletter. So, here it is.

"We have had some requests as to how to make division of hives in the spring, and for the new comers as well as others who may want to increase their colonies, I will mention it again in more detail.

Divisions should be made early in the spring, between the last week in March and the 2nd week in April. Colonies that go into the winter in strong condition, plenty of bees and plenty of stores and proper ventilation in each hive will no doubt come through the winter and have from 3 to 6 frames of brood around the 1st of April. Decide how many divisions you want and order queens during February, giving the queen breeder the date you with the queens to arrive. This is important because you cannot always get queens on the spur of the moment.

In making up your division, draw from your strong colonies frames of brood and bees. If a colony has 6 frames of brood with bees, take 3 frames from that colony for your division. If the brood isn't solid, go to another hive and draw a frame of brood and bees from it to complete your division. It's good to shake some extra bees into the division so there will be plenty to keep the brood warm and to give them a good start. Never

rob the parent colony too much. If you have several hives, you can make quite a few divisions without hurting the parent colonies in the least. If frames of honey are not available to place in your divisions, it is wise to feed them sugar syrup. This can be done thru the inner cover hole by inverting a can or jar over it with small nail holes punched in the lid. Feeding is usually necessary as it takes food to produce baby bees. A frame of pollen is also good to add to the division, as the bees will be unable to get pollen before the 10th of April, ordinarily, and then the weather may be backward so the bees can't get to the elms or maples.

If possible, move your divisions to another site a mile or more away. In doing so, the bees that you have taken from the parent colonies will not fly back to their home stand. If they are to remain in the same yard, it is wise to add an extra number of bees shaken from the frames of the parent colonies, as 1/3 to 1/2 of the division will return home.

In introducing the queen to your division, place the queen cage down between the frames of brood so the bees can get to the screen and get acquainted with her. Leave the stoppers in both ends of the cage so the bees can't chew her out. In four days, return, and destroy all queen cells, if any, and remove the cork from the candy end, push and 8 penny nail thru the candy and then put her back for the bees to chew her out. In five days or a week, return and gently remove the cage and see if she has started to lay eggs. Close up the hive and keep feeding if necessary and add another brood chamber when the division is 3/4 full. During these manipulations, reduce the entrance to about 1 1/2 inch by 1/2 in until real warm weather arrives. This helps to conserve heat and makes it easier for the bees to guard against robbing.

Now, in adding it up, your division will contain the equivalent of 3 frames of brood covered with bees, and a few extra ones shaken in for good measure, 1 or 2 frames of honey, a frame of pollen, and a caged queen.

In the event the queen isn't accepted and queen cells are present, if drones are in evidence, cut out all the cells but one or two, and hope for the best. OR, dispatch for another queen, but be

sure to destroy all queen cells before introducing her. It takes about 3 weeks or a little better for the bees to produce a queen and mate and start laying. Without sufficient number of drones, successful queen rearing is impossible.”

There is richness in finding articles from the past newsletters that are both relevant to today as well as educational. I hope you enjoyed it. As we recognize the Northeastern Kansas Beekeeper’s Association’s 70th anniversary in 2018, I’ll be on the search for more relevant and educational articles to share from our past.

Show Me the Honey

Becky Tipton

Dr. Dewey Caron will be our guest speaker at both the KHPA spring meeting (McPherson) and our New Beekeeper Class on March 11. He is, unequivocally, one of our favorite speakers. He has also written one of my favorite books on beekeeping, Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping, published by Wicwas Press. The book is available on Amazon for \$67. But, if you participate in the New Beekeeper Class, you will receive this book as part of your \$65 registration fee!!!! What a deal! As I sit in my kitchen with the outside temp hovering at a balmy 14° F and a steamy cup of French Roast nearby, let’s look at Dewey’s chapter 11, “Getting Started.”

Only about 1,000-1,500 of us (beekeepers) in the U.S. are considered commercial. That means folks making a living through beekeeping. That number seems so small for the vast amount of pollination work that must be done. Of the entire beekeeping community, there are quite a few more considered “sideline beekeepers.” We are folks trying to run a small business with our beekeeping. We’d like our hobby to pay for itself and maybe we develop some value-added products to sell along with our honey. We probably frequent farmers’ markets and or craft shows. But, we may just hang out a yellow, plastic sign with the simple single word advertisement, HONEY, and our friends and neighbors will happily take our excess product off our hands. The vast majority of us, more than 95% of the estimated 80,000+ beekeepers are called backyard or hobby beekeepers. And, if you are

considering becoming a beekeeper this season, this is you.

When you start beekeeping, the whole idea seems deceptively simple—put bugs in a box and they will create sweet nectar of the gods, honey, seemingly out of thin air. (Where do bees get their honey?) According to Dr. Caron, the requisites to starting beekeeping are:

- Information on bee biology (take a beekeeping class)
- A bee hive (purchase standard equipment—locally or order through bee supply houses)
- Bees (order package bees or buy a nuc colony—GET REFERENCES)
- A location (Your apiary. Hmmmm. Read last month’s column on moving bees.)
- Personal protective equipment (lots of choices available)
- Commitment of time and interest

Dr. Caron also gives us “Ten tips for suburban beekeepers.” Most of us will probably be placing hives in near proximity to our neighbors so here are a few things to consider.

1—Consider neighbors first and ensure they have no reason to complain or fear your bees. If your neighbor wears a health alert bracelet because he/she has anaphylactic reaction to bee stings, a hive next to your shared fence will not be well received.

2—Keep gentle bees that exhibit a minimum of flight about the head. If colonies are defensive, requeen them. Working bees to minimize defensive behavior is also important. Except during installation, using smoke minimizes aggressive behavior. Learning to use a properly can be challenging. The NEKBA Funday (June 2nd) is an excellent place to see that demonstrated.

3—Know bee biology and manage bees so the neighbors are not even aware the colony is nearby. Good ventilation minimizes bearding on the hive, comb management prevents swarming. Regular inspections and a well-managed hive prevents issues.

4—Halt swarming since neighbors will not know that swarm bees are gently—a swarm can be frightening to non-beekeepers. Learn about swarm prevention at the NEKBA Funday (June 2nd)

5—Keep an attractive water source nearby so your bees do not visit neighborhood pools, bird baths or yards to obtain water. Establish your water source before your bees need it.

6—Conceal or camouflage hives behind shrubbery, a fence or other convenient structure. Remember 'out of sight, out of mind.' Also, important to prevent theft, unfortunately.

7—Inspect colonies only under optimum conditions and work quickly and efficiently so manipulations are not prolonged. Bees worked on warm, sunny days, during a good nectar flow are less defensive.

8—Do not permit robbing to start when inspecting colonies. Halt inspection quickly if it starts and reduce entrances to allow the guard bees to restore order. Entrance feeders can promote robbing behavior by allowing outside bees easy access to sugar syrup. Choose internal feeders.

9—Add supers to colonies as needed; remove and extract honey supers in such a way that few bees are left flying about. Avoid situations where bees are trying to get into structures where you handle honey and store equipment. Never leave 'wet supers' in the open for the bees to clean. Their frantic behavior can look terrifying.

10—Join your local and regional bee associations to learn how to become a better beekeeper. The NEKBA and the Kansas Honey Producers both have programs to support new and seasoned beekeepers.

Beekeeping is an awesome hobby; there is always something new to learn. Come hear Dr. Caron in person. It will be time well spent.

Youth Scholarship Article- KayLynn Hall

When my dad suggested I try beekeeping I thought he was crazy. Bees were "scary!" Little did I know how much I would enjoy taking care of my bees and this experience. This first year was a true bonding experience for my dad and I right from the beginning while my mom kept her distance. My dad really pushed me and helped me through it all. My most memorable moment with my bees this past year was on August 9, 2017. I was heading out to put another honey super on my hive real quick while my mom was home for lunch. (I never worked with my bees without one of my parent's home). I decided to be lazy and not put on my suit

and headed out with just leggings and a t-shirt on with my Dad's bug baffler and gloves. Well, that was a mistake. I hadn't even gotten the lid fully off the hive before they started to go crazy. I got overwhelmed and started to walk away. I walked back to the house and that's when I felt it...my first bee sting!

I should be honest, it was actually, two bee stings. I went a little crazy and started to cry hysterically. If you don't know me well I have a great fear of needles and to me bee stings are the same. I ran into the house screaming and my mom was really no help. I found the stingers and put ice and ointment on my stings. My mom did save the stingers and tape them to a piece of paper with the date so we would all remember the day I received my first bee sting. It hangs on our fridge.

I learned that there is a mutual respect between the bees and myself. I took it personal that they stung me after I had cared for them. It hurt my feelings. Through this past year I have also learned about the importance of bees and their life and how much we need them for their pollinating.

Bio for Dr. David Roubik- A Funday Guest

Dave woke up one morning and decided he wanted to be a tropical entomologist. He was about four years old then, so he had a long way to go. When his parents gave the OK, he took some Spanish classes when he was 10, then graduated to more Spanish in school, and more science. And more travel. Travel to the tropics was essential. First with Spanish class, then as an exchange student, then to South America in French Guiana for his Ph.D. studies, and then to Panama, with a hardcore job in tropical entomology and a big order to fill: follow a request presented by the US Congress to get somebody studying those 'killer bees' and what could be expected from them, once they came up to North America as they were expected to do, from Brazil. Smithsonian had the right place- the famous Tropical Research Institute in Panama, and Dave had the right credentials. His plan was to seek the most protected, forested environments in the American tropics, and study, for comparison, similar settings in the Old World, then try to solve an important problem or two. By the time some of the answers were being given, Dave had learned to study plants, animals, people, agriculture and tropical nature, and make TV nature shows, on a world scale; after 30 years with Smithsonian, he's just getting warmed up. In his

worldview, many 'little things' have immense and fascinating roles. Dave likes to write, when it essential to convey to those not so lucky to have been 'held up on the shoulders of the world' to see what is around.

Tips for February

- Renew your club membership if you have not done so, how can you tell?
 - Check the date on your mailing label
 - If you get your **Buzzer** by email you will have received a statement in the body of your email message stating that your membership has expired.
 - Send in your registration for the Beginning Beekeeping workshop and find a friend or relative to take the beekeeping class with you.
- Get your queens and packages or nucs ordered!
- ◆ A good winter project is to melt down your wax cappings –the smell of beeswax will warm your soul.
- ◆ Make sure your lids are still on your hives
- ◆ On a warm day (if the bees are flying it is warm enough for a quick check) check your bees and see if you have to move some frames of honey around to get it closer to the cluster of bees.
- ◆ Repair any old equipment that you have sitting around—spring is just around the corner. You'll be needing it soon
- ◆ Clean those recycled frames—foundation over 5 years old is too old, replace it. Some people write on the top bar of new frames what year the frames were put in the hives-that helps you to know when they need to be replaced.
- ◆ Brood rearing begins this month; food consumption increases quickly—double and triple check food.
- ◆ Resolve to keep better bee records for 2018
- ◆ Read at least one new beekeeping book this winter—the club library has some great ones
- ◆ Work on your bee equipment
- ◆ Check the front of your hives for skunks scratching on them. Beekeepers can be quite creative in eliminating skunks!
- ◆ Subscribe to a beekeeping magazine this year.

- ◆ Check your home for library books—the library is missing a lot of books.

Past Beekeeper's of the Year

1994- Melissa Ostermeyer
1995- Ed Bishop
1996- Don Hendrickson
1997: Wendell Ohmes
1998: Joli Winer
1999: Joy Young
2000: Merlene Eads
2001: Larry Coppinger
2002: Becky Tipton
2003: Kristi Sanderson
2004: Robert Burns
2005: Ray Morgan
2006: Cecil Sweeney
2007: Steve Tipton
2008: Michael Sinclair
2009: Ron Ward
2010: Joli Winer 2011 & 2012 not given
2013: Al Abts
2014: Andy Nowachek 2015 & 2016 not given
2017: Dale & Dixie Spurlin Family

Mentoring Class Requirements and Registry By Andy Nowachek

Over the years we have struggled to get qualified mentors to help with our youth scholarship program and our Military/Veterans Apprenticeship program. We also have had many requests from new beekeepers who wanted a mentor. We have formed a committee to get this mentoring program on the road. Some of the requirements to become a mentor are:

- Keep bees in Langstroth hives
- Have been a beekeeper for 5 years or more
- Consistently maintain 5 or more hives
- Attend a mentoring class

The class will be held shortly after the beginning beekeeping class and the date and time will be announced later.

The mentoring classes will be open to anyone who wants to be a mentor in future.

Andy Nowachek will be at the February 19th meeting with a clip board if you would like to sign up to be a mentor. If you can't attend the meeting you can call Andy at 913-438-5397

Honey Plants



Jo Patrick

Nature has been toying with us. This winter the weather has warmed to 50-60 degrees only to plummet back below freezing. As most of you know, Kansas usually has temperature fluctuations in winter, but in the past few years there has been very little moisture. The lack of moisture can impact bloom quality and duration in plants and trees. At one point, in January, I thought the maple and willow buds were close to opening and then we experienced single digit temperatures. On February 15, 2017, I observed my honey bees bringing in greenish pollen. The Silver Maples were blooming and my bees were bringing back pollen to feed larvae. Watch and record when you see maples and willows in bloom or observe your honey bees bringing in pollen.

I have committed to tracking the Growing Degree Days this year. I have been checking the website <http://www.kansasethanol.net/index.cfm?show=1&mapID=35> for a daily calculation. As of 2/6/18, the area around Kansas City was at 32 Growing Degree Days and 39 Growing Degree Days in the Topeka area. Northeast Kansas covers quite an area on the map and it is slightly warmer west of the Kansas City metro area. If you would like to calculate your own Growing Degree Days, please see January 2018 issue of The Buzzer for detailed instructions.

Anyone who has maintained a bird bath through the winter, with a de-icer or heating element, knows the importance of water in winter. Birds will make regular visits to the bird bath when other water sources are frozen. This winter, on days my honey bees could fly, I noticed they were visiting the bird bath that had a de-icer. I hadn't thought about their need for water during the winter. We often hear that the honey bee will use water to keep the colony cool during the hot days of summer. Other than drinking, why would water

collectors make numerous trips for water in the winter? A well-timed article, entitled *Cold Flying Foragers: Honey Bees in Scotland Seek Water in Winter* by Ann Chilcott and Tom Seeley, appeared in the January 2018 issue of American Bee Journal. Chilcott and Seeley did a study to see at what temperature range honey bees would collect water in mid-January to late February. They placed a water source less than 40 feet from the 3 colonies they were observing. It was noted that the three species of bees being studied were Italians, Carnolians, and north European black bees. Those colonies had begun collecting pollen in mid-January through February. Chilcott and Seeley wrote, "...it is likely that they were rearing brood when we conducted our study. Because these colonies had no nectar sources, they were probably desperate to obtain water so their nurse bees would have the water they needed to produce protein rich food from their hypopharyngeal glands for the larvae. This is probably why the bees collected water despite the risks of chilling and immobilization outside the hive." On the days the water collectors were active the lowest air temperatures recorded were 39.6-40.1 degrees Fahrenheit.

We beekeepers know that queens begin laying eggs, in the spring, well in advance of nectar producing blooms. Perhaps we should evaluate our winter water sources and place heated water close enough to the colonies that water collectors can reach the source without chilling. This could be a big benefit to our colonies. It could assist with early spring build up so the colony will be ready for the main nectar flow. The birds will thank you too.

March and April will bring fruit tree blooms. Fruit trees are a very good source of quality nectar. The first fruit blooms are apricots followed by peaches. Apricots are more likely to have flowers damaged by frost than peaches because they bloom a bit earlier. The tree will survive, but there will be few or no blooms. The K State Horticulture newsletter for January, 2018 explains, "Research at Virginia Tech in the 90's showed a maximum of a 4-day difference between early and late varieties. However, in some years that may be all that is needed." The apricots recommended by K State for their late blooming characteristics include

Hungarian Rose, Tilton, Harglow and Harlayne. Peaches can also be caught by late frosts. K State Horticulture department recommends 'China Pearl', 'Encore', 'Risingstar', and 'Intrepid'. Intrepid has shown excellent cold hardiness when in flower.

There are several seed sharing events taking place in the northeast Kansas area. If you are interested, an event I would encourage you to attend is at the Overland Park Arboretum. It will take place on Wed, Feb 21, rain or shine, noon-3pm; at the visitor center at the Overland Park Arboretum. Jim Earnest and Ken O'Dell will host a Seed Sharing Event. Attendees will be able to select and pick out seed that Jim and Ken have collected from wilderness, woodlands, prairies, and the arboretum. Seed will be limited to 5 or 10 of each variety or species as this is for a fun growing event and not for commercial production. There will be seed from more than 50 different trees, as well as seeds from many shrubs, wildflowers, vines and grasses. The seed and small bags to put them in will be provided. You should bring a pen to write on paper or plastic. There is no charge for the event, and registration is not necessary. Just come in with a smile on your face. There may be a \$3 fee to enter the Arboretum.

I have had the pleasure of meeting Ken

O'Dell and hearing his lecture. There are few as

knowledgeable as Ken regarding plant species native to northeast Kansas. If he has time, be sure to ask any questions about native plants and pollinators you have. Ken is a wealth of knowledge.

Taking Care of your Bee Hive if your Bees Die

I've had a few calls and emails about how to take care of your beekeeping equipment if your bees die. Here are some suggestions.

Take your equipment in and check it first to make sure you did not have American foulbrood. If you do not, then you can get it ready to reuse and recycle. It is perfectly fine to put new bees in—but first there are some things you should do first.

Repair and repaint any equipment that needs it—this is a great time to perform those tasks.

Take out each frame and brush off the bees, the more bees that you can get out the better it is for your new bees later on. Sometimes the bees left on the comb will mold so the more you get off the better.

Close your equipment up and store it a cold, unheated area. Any honey can be reused for your new bees. Your already drawn out comb can also be used for your new bees.

NORTHEASTERN KS BEEKEEPERS' ASSOC. 2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____

PHONE _____ Email address _____

I would like to receive the newsletter, *The Buzzer*, by email Yes _____ No _____

Membership Northeastern KS Beekeepers per year (July-Dec. \$7.50) \$15.00 _____

Additional family members wanting voting rights \$1.00 per person \$1.00 _____

Additional Family member's names _____

(Youth Membership (18 years of age or under) \$7.50 _____

Membership for Kansas Honey Producers Assn. \$15.00 _____

American Bee Journal 1 year \$24.00 _____

Bee Culture Magazine 1 year \$25.00 _____

Scholarship Donation _____

Total _____

Make checks payable to: NEKBA or NE Beekeepers Assn. Mail To: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202 913-481-3504 email rburnshoney@gmail.com Now you can pay online at WWW.NEKBA.ORG

Northeastern Kansas Beekeeper's Association
Beginning Beekeeping Class 2018 for Langstroth Hives
Sundays, March 4^h and 11th Registration 12-1 and demonstrations, program 1-5:30 p.m.,
Douglas Co. Fairgrounds, 2110 Harper St., Bldg. 21, Lawrence KS

Dr. Dewey Caron, author of the textbook we will be using, *Honey Bee Biology & Beekeeping*, will present on the 2nd day, March 11th. **Dewey M. Caron** is a graduate of Cornell University and Emeritus Professor from the University of Delaware. Dewey has received numerous awards and forms of recognition for his teaching and extension work during his career. He has written many books and is one of our favorite guests.

New members will be eligible to win a starter single story hive and a 3-pound package of bees with a queen. All other registrants will be eligible to win additional door prizes. Drawings will be held on March 11th at the conclusion of the class. You must be present to win.

Each family registration will receive the book: *Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping* 2nd Edition by Dr. Dewey Caron. Each registrant will receive a set of presentation notes. If you have this book, there will be an alternate available.

Sunday, March 4th

12:00-1:00 Registration - Stations will be set up to see how to put together Langstroth style hives

1:00 Introductions of club officers, President Steve Messbarger

1:05-1:50(45) Beginning with Bees An introduction to the vocabulary, biology, equipment, and some considerations to be aware of as you begin. Becky Tipton Presents

1:55-2:25 (30) Beekeeping Equipment Learn the proper names for beekeeping equipment. This presentation will give you a good idea of the different pieces of equipment you need to have to keep bees. Steve Messbarger Presents

2:30-3:20(45) Basics of Installing and Managing for Package Bees and Nucs Find out the various ways you can obtain bees, and the best way to install package bees with their queen. Find out how to take care of your new hive: feeding for growth, when to add the next hive body; when to add honey supers; finally, what to expect your 1st and 2nd seasons. Kristi Sanderson Presents

3:20-3:50(30) Break

3:50-4:35(45) Seasonal Management-Late Summer and Fall Fall management, includes checking your hives to make sure they have enough bees and food and getting your bees ready for winter. Cecil Sweeney Presents

4:40-5:10-(30) Tips for the Beekeeper Robert Burns will demonstrate how to light a smoker, approach a hive, open it up; get started on your beekeeping adventure, and safety. Robert Burns presents.

5:15-5:30 Question and Answer Session-All presenters will answer questions

Sunday, March 11th

12:00-1:00 Stations will be set up to see how to put together Langstroth style bee hives

1:05-1:55 (50) The Biology of Bees What you need to know to meet your beekeeping objectives. Dr. Dewey Caron presents

2:00-2:40(40) Extracting Honey Club members will demonstrate how to remove honey from your hives and uncap your honey, extract it and bottle it for sale and gifts. Andy Nowachek Presents

2:40-3:10 (30) Break

3:10-4:00 (50) Reading the Brood Frame - Dr. Dewey Caron Presents

4:05-4:15(10) Opportunities for members of the bee clubs. Joli will share our favorite books and magazines, about our library, other local beekeeping clubs, and more beekeeping educational opportunities. Joli Winer presents

4:20-5:10 (50) Bee MD -Who else is in your hive? Coverage of pathogens and predators that can be found in your hive. Dr. Dewey Caron presents

5:10- close Question and Answer Session & Drawing for door prizes-you must be present to win, one door prize ticket per paid registration. All presenters will answer questions.

Kansas Honey Producers Spring 2018 Meeting
Friday and Saturday March 9 & 10 2018
The Cedars Conference Center 1021 Cedars Drive, McPherson KS
For information or questions about the meeting -Joli Winer 913-593-3562
or email joli@heartlandhoney.com

The Spring meeting of the Kansas Honey Producers will be held in McPherson at the Cedars Conference Center. The Hotel for the sleeping rooms for the meeting is the Hampton Inn at 200 Centennial Dr. (just off of I135) at McPherson. Rooms are \$99.00 a night and includes breakfast and free wi-fi. Reservations must be made by February 16th for this rate. Mention KHP to get the discount. Reservations may be made either online at Hampton.com, →choose McPherson, →choose KHP or you may call 620-480-2990 and mention KHP.

Our guest speakers will be Dr. Dewey Caron and Randy Oliver. **Dewey M. Caron** is a graduate of Cornell University and Emeritus Professor from the University of Delaware. He has received numerous awards and forms of recognition for his teaching and extension work during his career. He has written many books and is one of our favorite guest. Some of his books are *Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping*, *Observation Hives-How to set up, maintain and open a window to the world of Honey Bees*, *Beekeeping Basics* and *Africanized Honey Bees in the Americas*.

Randy Oliver owns and operates a small commercial beekeeping enterprise in the foothills of Grass Valley in Northern California. He and his two sons manage about 1000 colonies for migratory pollination, and produce queens, nucs, and honey. He has over 40 years of practical beekeeping experience, plus holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biological Sciences. Randy researches, analyzes, and digests beekeeping information from all over the world in order to not only broaden his own depth of understanding and knowledge, but to develop practical solutions to many of today's beekeeping problems, which he then shares with other beekeepers through his various articles in bee magazines, his speaking engagements worldwide, and on his website: www.ScientificBeekeeping.com

Cooking contest- Anything Cherries-The predominant sweetener should be honey-please bring printed recipes without your name on them. Marietta Graham will coordinate. Foods will be tasted on Friday and prizes will be awarded. Participants may bring sauces for ice cream for Friday night dessert too (but this is not part of a contest).

Silent Auction—please do not bring items for the silent auction-we have had a very generous donation from the Brown Family of Donna's honey pots and gift items—7 boxes! So please save your items until the next meeting. Donna had some beautiful items and it will be a great auction with money going to our grant program. Becky Tipton Coordinates

Dinner on Friday will be catered by Knackies BBQ and will be a BBQ Buffet. The Program will be **Beekeeping in the California Foothills** -Randy Oliver presents: A pictorial presentation of our season of beekeeping in the California foothills—wintering, building for almond pollination, splitting and nuc sales, building for honey, late summer and fall management.

Program for the KHPA Spring 2018 Meeting

March 8th, Thursday night-Executive Board meeting at the Cedars at 8:00 pm **1021 Cedars Drive**

Friday, March 9th Cedars Conference Center **1021 Cedars Drive**

7:45-8:30 **Registration & Silent Auction set up (please see note about not bringing items)**

8:30-8:45 **Call to order by President Jim Kellie**

8:45-9:45 Good News about Bees, positive spin on the nasties of beekeeping mites/pesticides/honey/forage & people. **Dr. Dewey Caron**

9:45-10:45 The Times They are a Changin' Bees are continually being forced to evolve due to environmental changes and introduced parasites. In turn, beekeeping, and the business of beekeeping must also evolve. An overview that puts the recent evolution of beekeeping and agriculture into perspective--how parasites, climate change, changing agricultural practices, beekeeping practices, world trade, pesticides, and GMO's fit into the picture of today's state of the honey bee.

Randy Oliver

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-12:00 How can K State help you develop your Products for your Business, Dr. Fadi Aramouni, professor food science at K State

12:00-1:00 Lunch on your own

1:00-2:00 Certified Kitchens—Honey and Food Processing, Greg Willis, KDA Food Processing MGR.

2:00-3:00 Managing Colonies for Spring Buildup and Swarm Prevention

Management suggestions based upon an understanding of bee biology and behavior. **Randy Oliver**

3:00-3:30 Break-end of silent auction at 3:30

3:30-4:30 Anticipatory Beekeeping Successful beekeepers seek to stay ahead of their bees, anticipating what will occur based on what a colony inspection reveals or the season dictates. If we only react we will be constantly trying to catch up. How can we best anticipate mite population levels, queen events, worker population fluctuations and which of several management options best serves to allow us to be ahead of, rather than merely reacting to, what the bees are doing? Anticipate, not merely react, is easy to say but difficult to accomplish. **Dr. Dewey Caron**

4:30-4:45 Get a Cherry honey snack

4:45- Area Groups meet

6:00 Dinner-catered by Knackies BBQ and Catering -Program: Beekeeping in the California Foothills: A pictorial presentation of our season of beekeeping in the California Foothills—wintering, building for almond pollination, splitting and nuc sales, building for honey, late summer and fall management.

Saturday March 10th

8-8:30 Registration & Silent Auction Set up

8:30-9:30 Adapting to Varroa & Extended Release Oxalic Acid Update- A group of us are collaborating with USDA-ARS to collect data in support for EPA to approve this application method, which is showing great promise (and may be a game changer in varroa management). This presentation will be about our progress to date. **Randy Oliver**

9:30-10:30 Bee MD, diagnosing and treating bee maladies using decision "tree" approach Where is problem Internal hive/External hive/adult bees/brood - arriving at a diagnosis of what problem is and solution - Pollinator Protection will have available on website **Dr. Dewey Caron**

10:30-10:50 Break

10:50-11-05 Grant Group presentation

11:05-12:05 Chad Gilliland --Topic to bee announced

12:05-1:05 Lunch on your own

1:05-1:35 Beekeeping by the Numbers-Dr. Dewey Caron presents

1:35-2:35 Around the room discussion about how you requeen and make nucs—2 things will be going on—1 will be the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Certification – something else will also be going on but that is to be determined!

2:35-2:50 Break & end of Silent Auction

2:50-3:50 Small Scale Queen Rearing Every beekeeper should experience the joy of rearing daughters from their best queens! In this presentation I show step-by-step queen rearing techniques for the hobbyist through small commercial beekeeper. Tips from several decades of experience-**Randy Oliver**

3:50-4:30 Business Meeting

Program Subject to change

KHPA Spring 2018 Meeting Registration Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____

COUNTY _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ write email address clearly

Check here if you would like to receive your newsletter by email

List names of those registered for name tags

Children-please list for a name tags-- under 18 free

Meeting Registration For members: Children under 18 free

Per Person 2-day registration-Friday and Saturday \$ 80.00 X _____ = _____

Per Person 1 day only _____ Friday only _____ Saturday only \$ 45.00 X _____ = _____

Meeting Registration for Non-members: (Includes a 1-year membership)

Per Person 2 Day registration-Friday & Saturday \$95.00 X _____ = _____

Per Person 1 Day _____ Friday only _____ Saturday only \$60.00 X _____ = _____

Friday Dinner -BBQ Buffet catered by Knackies a local BBQ. BBQ Brisket & BBQ Chicken Breast, Cheesy Hash Brown Casserole, Baked Beans and Bacon, Cauliflower & Broccoli Salad. Ice Cream Sundaes for Dessert. (Participants may bring homemade ice cream sauces)

Check here if you want a vegetarian meal _____ veggie meal \$15.00 X _____ = _____

Check here if you need an alternate meal because it is Lent \$15.00 X _____ = _____

Children under 12 \$8 X _____ = _____

Membership for Kansas Honey Producers Association: Renewal New \$15.00 _____

Youth Membership 2018 (18 years of age or under) Renewal New \$7.50 _____

Membership 2018 Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assn: Renewal New \$15.00 _____

Donation for Grant Project

\$ _____
Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Kansas Honey Producers Assn or KHPA and mail to
Robert Burns, 7601 W. 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202
913-481-3504 or email rburnshoney@gmail.com

Registration & payment now accepted with PayPal at www.kansashoneyproducers.org

If you have questions please call me, Joli Winer, at 913-856-8356

Note: No receipts will be sent

MENTORING-SWEET PRAIRIE HONEY

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

HEARTLAND HONEY & BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES

We no longer sell bee supplies but will still have 2018 package bees and 2018 queens. Joli Winer/Cecil Sweeney, Heartland Honey, 19201 S Clare Rd. Spring Hill KS 66083. (913) 856-8356. joli@heartlandhoney.com

FISHER'S BEE SUPPLIES

We carry all your basic supplies for beekeeping. We will also trade your clean blocks of melted cappings towards supplies. PICK UP HOURS ARE MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AFTERNOONS at 4005 NE 132 Street, Smithville, MO 64089 Please preorder and call before you come to make sure we are here. 816-532-4698. fishersbeesupplies@gmail.com.

DRAPER'S SUPER BEE

We offer fast and courteous service to all beekeepers. We only sell containers, pollen and honey for those who run short. Order is shipped the same day as received in most cases. Free catalog available on request. Pick up orders at our warehouse must be pre-ordered and picked up by appt only. Business Hours: Mon.-Thur. 8-5; closed from 12-1. Brenda and Larry Draper, DRAPER'S SUPER BEE; 914 S St. Auburn NE 68305 PHONE: (402) 274-3725.

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.* 3-frame nucs of solid brood comb of foundation (frames of even exchange) with MN Hygienic queens for \$119.00 each Raymond Cooper, 220 N Elm, Iola KS 66749. Call: 620-365-5956 after 8:00 p.m.

JORDY'S HONEY

We carry a full line of beekeeping supplies. Bee Hives, Supers, Frames, Foundation, Honey Containers, Smokers, Beekeeping Books, Queens, Packaged Bees and much more. Our hours are 8:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday-Friday and weekends by appointment. Please call in advance so we can have your supplies ready when you arrive. Robert Hughes, 12333 Wedd Street, Overland Park, KS 66213 PHONE: 913-681-5777

COTTIN'S HARDWARE & RENTAL

We stock a full line of beekeeping equipment manufactured by Harvest Lane Honey, Little Giant, and Bug Baffler. Products include hives, supers, frames, foundation, extractors, tools, and protective apparel. We carry beekeeping supplies year-round! Our hours are Monday-Friday 7:30-6:00, Saturday 8:00-5:00, and Sunday 10:00-5:00. 1832 Massachusetts St., Lawrence, KS 66044. PHONE: 785-843-2981.

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. A Charitable, Educational Non-Profit, 501C3, Proceeds go back into the training program. Hours Mon - Fri, 9-4, closed Fridays in Winter. Please call ahead. Golden Prairie Honey Farms, 8859 Green Valley Dr., Ste 4, Manhattan, KS 66502 Phone: (785) 370-3642 Email gphfarms@gmail.com. Or order online at goldenprairiehoney.com

THE BEE STORE

We carry a complete line of bee supplies, along with honey and honey related products that we produce here in the store. We also offer beginning beekeeping classes, queens, bees, and feed. Located in Lawrence at 23rd and Louisiana in The Malls shopping center (a few doors west of Westlake Ace Hardware). We are open Tuesday to Saturday, 1pm to 6 pm. Phone 762-BEE-HIVE. website: www.AnthonysBeehive.com.

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

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

Address Service Requested

Meeting
Monday, February 19th 2018

The Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

Membership is open to anyone who is 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. New memberships and renewals should be submitted to the treasurer.

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 for through the treasurer.

The Association meets each month on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. except during the month of January. A beekeeping class is held in March. This is a nonprofit organization; elected officers serve without pay. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting. Check *The Buzzer* or our website at NEKBA.ORG each month for the actual date, time and location. If the weather is bad call an officer or check the www.NEKBA.org website to find out if the meeting will be held.

2018 Officers

President: Steve Messbarger, 9802 S Burr Oak Circle, De Soto KS 66018	Smessbarger55@gmail.com	913-226-2849
1st VP: (youth scholarship) Terry Collins, 35295 W 311 th , Paola KS 66071	dcomputerman@yahoo.com	913-937-7980
2nd VP (Librarian): Gayan Stanley, 1988 E 1st Rd., Lecompton, KS 66050	gayanski@aol.com	785-865-7315
3rd VP (Honey Plants): Jo Patrick, 611 E Sheridan, Olathe KS 66061	brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net	913-645-8947
Secretary: Marlene Pantos, 2920 Stubbs Rd., Tecumseh KS 66542	MarlenePantos@yahoo.com	785-633-6283
Treasurer: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54 th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202	rburnshoney@gmail.com	913-481-3504
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Military/Veteran Chair: Andy Nowachek, 10921 W 91 st Terr, Shawnee Mission KS	awn@everestkc.net	913-438-5397
Editor: Joli Winer, 19201 S. Clare Rd. Spring Hill KS 66083	joli@heartlandhoney.com	913-856-8356
Webmaster: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54 th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202	rburnshoney@gmail.com	913-481-3504

Visit our Website at NEKBA.org