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The Bee Buzzer

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Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

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EDITOR: CHERYL BURKHEAD

July 2021

General Meeting

Monday, July 19, 2021 (7 p.m.)

Join Us for a ZOOM Meeting

"In the comfort of your own home"

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

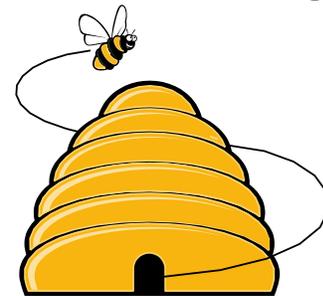
Main Program: Varroa Mite Treatments- When, How, and Why. Dr. Judy Wu-Smart from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

It was so good to see all who attended the meeting in Olathe at the Pollinator Prairie Gardens last month. Chip, Sami, and Jo gave wonderful presentations and the homemade honey ice cream by Cecil and Joli really hit the spot. Our next meeting will be July 19th. It won't be in person as previously planned. We will be meeting by Zoom and the meeting ID will be provided just as it has been for past meetings. The Douglas County District Court is using the fairgrounds to conduct business, so the facilities aren't available for our use. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we look for an alternative location to meet. If you know of a place that will accommodate 150 people, please let us know. Dr. Judy Wu- Smart from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will be presenting. Be sure to tune in as mite treatment is such an important management topic. It will help you as a beekeeper to be more successful at getting your bees through the winter.

Kristi Sanderson, Program Chair

Beelines

By President Ed Darlington



I hope everyone enjoyed our NEKBA June meeting at Pollinator Prairie, in Olathe. Even the weather cooperated and provided us with a very pleasant evening!

Our thanks to Kristi for setting this up, and making our initial transition from zoom meetings to in-person assembly and our subsequent program out among nature.

While the board struggles with deciding on the format for future meetings, we are looking for new board members. We encourage people to step up and volunteer.

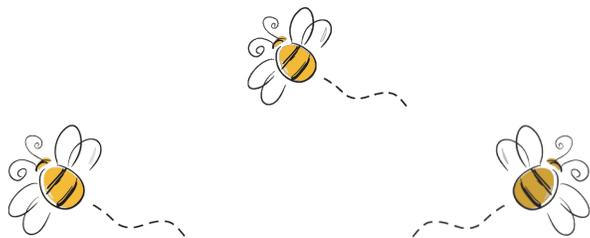
The board is also reviewing and evaluating our recommendations for replacements of board positions of members with expiring terms; or those who need to give up the positions for unforeseen circumstances.

One of the things we try to determine is how we need to adapt and meet the needs of our bees. We sometimes try to determine if this is a normal or abnormal year. The best approach is to realize that every year is different, and we constantly have to tweak either the process, or the timing of how we care for our hives. The "normal year" is an elusive and misleading determination.

Take every opportunity available to educate non-beekeepers to be aware of the things they do

that might positively or negatively affect all the living creatures around us. We should be observant and inquisitive, and arm ourselves with accurate information and data. Beekeepers have to constantly study and learn the science behind the things affecting our hives and other creatures, including humans. There are patterns that indicate many things are adversely affecting our environment. One of our main tasks is to separate the political rhetoric from true science.

While these tasks can be daunting, we need to find ways to keep it enjoyable. We experience too often the fact that beekeepers give up and quit the craft, rather than adapt. NEKBA is a wonderful source of information to prevent beekeepers from getting off track. Remember to communicate with other members and learn from our more experienced members. They can help to guide you around many of the pitfalls we face.



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

- July 19, 2021
- August 2, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- August 16, 2021
- September 13, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- September 20, 2021



Youth Scholarship mentors needed

Youth Scholarship mentors are needed. Please consider being a mentor for the youth scholarship program. We are looking for beekeepers with at least 5 years of experience. Mentors must be flexible in meeting with the youth scholarship families—they have children with a lot of activities, sports obligations, 4-H, family, etc. We work hard to match families with mentors who are within close proximity—no more than 30 minutes each

way. You are asked to commit to one year plus helping them through the beginning of the next year—helping them to make a spring split, if needed, and get them started for the season. Mentors will be asked to interview with Joli and perhaps work through a hive. This is a big commitment of time! You will be expected to meet a week or every other week at least in the beginning. Additional visits as the season progresses as needed. If you would like more information, please call Joli at 913-593-3562 or email joli@heartlandhoney.com.

Joli Winer, Scholarship Chairperson



Ol' Bee Gal

How are your bees doing? Super-cold April, super-hot June, with long periods of rain in between. Nectar flow starting, nectar flow stopping, what nectar flow? And then they swarmed. UGH. Catch the swarm. Is that a virgin queen? What's going on in your hive? Sometimes it's really hard to tell. I got a call this week from an experienced beekeeper asking, how can you tell the difference between a hive with laying workers and a hive with a new queen that just hasn't quite figured out that egg laying thing? Often newly mated queens will lay 2-3 eggs per cell those first few days. But with so many hives recovering from swarming, the worry about developing laying workers is real.

The queen's primary job within the hive is the reproductive female, the egg layer. But the pheromones she produces are ultimately important to the health of the colony, too. One of the jobs of the queen pheromone is to suppress ovary development in worker bees. All workers are female. All workers have ovaries—they are just under developed and the worker is never mated. So, if she begins to lay eggs, they are all unfertilized, drone eggs.

This unfortunate event begins with the loss of the queen. Common scenarios include: the queen

is damaged during an inspection, the colony swarms and the queen gets damaged while the swarm is being re-hived, the virgin queen while on her mating flight, is eaten. If the colony has eggs, the workers will try to raise a queen. They will draw out emergency cells from the face of the brood frame. They will have chosen larvae, usually older, 2–3-day old larvae, to begin growing their queen. They want/need a queen as soon as possible. The good news is, they will probably be successful and raise a queen. (A queen raised from an older larva may be of mediocre quality, having missed 2-3 days of being fed all the royal jelly she needs for optimal development.) But, as in the case of the swarm queen being destroyed or the virgin queen being eaten on her mating flight, there may not be any fertilized eggs from which to grow a new queen. This is why we advise beekeepers to watch those hives that have swarmed to be sure they are queen right within a few weeks after swarming.

The laying worker syndrome doesn't develop quickly. Brood contains pheromones that inhibit ovary development. Generally, workers will not begin egg laying until a couple of weeks beyond all remaining brood hatching. If your queen was killed by your own clumsy actions, you'll have 3-6 weeks until all the brood in the hive has emerged and worker bee egg laying begins. This is the critical point. If you do not get a queen in this hive before all healthy brood emerges, you'll likely have laying workers. If you discover a hive or a swarm in this situation—very little or no brood, no sign of a queen or queen cells, what should you do? Get a queen ordered **and** give the girls a frame of brood from another hive. They may try to grow a queen from some of the eggs. You'll need to remove these cells before introducing your queen. The colony will also begin to dwindle rapidly—no new brood and only older bees remain. Remember, laying workers develop 2-3 weeks after all brood has emerged. A swarm has no emerging brood (unless you gave them a frame) so laying workers can develop more quickly.

What does laying worker syndrome look like? There may be some capped brood within the hive. It will be scattered. The cells will be bullet shaped on top—the result of drone development within a worker-sized cell. You will see multiple eggs per cell. There can be as many as 10 eggs in a cell! They will also be misplaced. A queen lays an egg

standing straight up in the bottom of the cell. The worker abdomen is not long enough to correctly position the egg and the worker seems somewhat confused by the whole process. You'll have eggs on the side of the cell, near the bottom, and even on the face of the frame. The drone eggs will hatch and you'll see multiple larvae in each cell. Sometimes the larva will reach the stage where they are to be capped. The resulting drones are undersized if they develop at all. This is the crux of deciding, laying workers or immature queen. An immature queen may be laying 2-3 eggs per cell but they will almost always be on the bottom of the cell, more or less correctly placed. If this is what you suspect (and hope for) give this hive 3-5 days and check the exact frame/cells again. The workers in a healthy hive will have removed excess eggs and the new queen will only be laying single cells in the surrounding area.

A common misunderstanding is that the hive has developed "a" laying worker. The hive has not developed a laying worker; they have developed laying workers—many, many laying workers. You cannot physically tell them from workers that are not egg layers. You cannot find and remove them.

What can you do? Unfortunately, it is the kiss of death for your hive. After laying workers develop, you cannot successfully introduce a queen. They will kill her. Some folks say that if you add frames of brood for about 6 weeks, you can "straighten out" the hive. That might work—in 6 weeks, all the laying workers have died and the supplemental brood has suppressed additional workers from beginning egg laying. Lots of work and lots of wasted brood for very little gain. The honey flow is over. The chance of the colony surviving winter with a diminished population is unlikely. Once laying workers are established, take the effected colony away from other established colonies. Remove each frame from the hive and brush the bees onto the ground. You can use the drawn comb in any other colony; laying worker syndrome is not a contagious disease. The bees will clean out eggs and larvae and make good use of the drawn comb. It's harsh and does not feel good but it is the best solution to a bad situation. So, check those swarms and swarmed hives. Make sure your colonies are queen-right before it's too late.

Becky Tipton, Special Events Coordinator



Military/Veterans Apprentices Program

I would like to thank Nancy Pilney for her complimentary article and to her husband Bret as it has been an honor and privilege to help mentor them this past year. Nancy makes our fourth recipient since we started our program in 2018. I need to also mention my wife Wendy helped with the installation of the package of bees as I was recovering from back surgery. Nancy is the first Military Veteran that I was the actual mentor to and I can say it was great working with her and Bret. Nancy is right on one thing for sure- when you mentor and work with a person, you become acquainted with them personally and learn about their families and interests. That is one of the many benefits of mentoring. I fully understand why Nancy achieved the rank she had. Witnessing her interest and her desire to jump right in and GET THE JOB DONE. I'll bet that those hives will be as pristine in years to come as they are now. Thanks to both of you for allowing Wendy and I to be your mentors, it was our privilege and we look forward to working with you in the future.

This past year has been a real challenge in just about everything. Mentoring in a mask and then adding your veil and any other apparel you chose was quite a challenge, but we made it! Who says beekeepers aren't tough?! We are still looking for a Veteran who may be interested in becoming a beekeeper and we have some outstanding mentors to help them out. If you know of someone who may have an interest, please have them give me a call. With all the technology we have these days it is pretty easy to send a picture or video where you may be able to direct them on what to be done or diagnose the problem. I will admit though you CANNOT replace the one on one, person to person, experience of actual being there and working together.

By the time everyone receives the Buzzer, Independence Day will be over. I hope everyone

got to gather with friends and family and enjoy the holiday. There are special days of the year that will always stand out along with family birthdays and special occasions. Independence Day and the sight of our flags flying in the wind will always be extra special for me. It would be nice if our military would the day off to celebrate but as I remember it does not work exactly that way while you are in the service. For all that are serving and those who have served their country, I Thank You! I hope you all had a safe and pleasant 4th of July.

Andy Nowachek, Military/Veteran Appr.Liaison



JOCO Fair Open Class Honey Show

Johnson County Fair Open Class- Honey entries for the Johnson County Fair will be accepted at the Open Class building on July 26th from 6:30-9 pm and July 27th from 8-10 am. For more information go to www.jocokansasfair.com. You do not need to be a resident of Johnson County to enter.

Joli Winer, Scholarship Chairperson



Deadlines have changed for submitting fair entries online and getting them to Hutchinson to be judged in the honey show. By July 25, to avoid any extra fees, have your entries submitted online to the Kansas State Fair. Go to www.kansasstatefair.com. Click on Competitions in the upper right side. Next, click on Competitive Exhibits with the Pride of Kansas and sunflowers in the picture. Next scroll down and click on Agriculture where there are pumpkins in the picture. From this page you can do your online entry and go to the honey section

of the fair book to see what honey classes you want to compete in.

This year the fair has added a \$1.00 cost per entry submitted to help defray some of their expenses in processing entries. The days to get entries to the fair are September 6-8. Judging is to start on the 8th at noon. Pick up times of entries is September 19th. Anyone not able to make the trip to or from Hutchinson with entries may contact me, Kristi Sanderson, by phone or text at 913-768-4961. I will make sure your entries make it to and from the fair. Please consider exhibiting you honey so we may have a good showing in the honey area again this year.

In 2019 we had more entries than we had had in a long time. Let's not let missing a year at the Kansas State Fair slow us down. We will come back strong once again. Don't forget the black label competition as well. See if your honey will be judged the best tasting honey in the state of Kansas. Remember, you must enter two other honey classes to be able to participate in the black label class.

Kristi Sanderson, Program Chair

Volunteers Needed for Honey Sales Booth at Kansas State Fair

This year volunteers will be needed from September 9-19 at the fair. The Pride of Kansas building will be open from 9AM-9PM the 10th-19th. Volunteers will be needed to set up display area on the 8th and label products to be sold in the booth. Our time frame for selling will be 2- 6 hour shifts with the 1st one from 9-3 and the 2nd one from 3-9. Don't be bashful and think "I don't know enough about bees". You have more knowledge than the general public and there will be other beekeepers present to help. For every day an entry ticket is needed, one will be provided for you at the guest services office once you get to the fair. Very soon an online program called SignUpGenius will be available for volunteers to sign up for the times that fit their schedules. If you have signed up this way in the past, you will receive an email notification when this program is once again available. If you need assistance signing up to volunteer, contact Kristi by phone or text at 913-768-4961.

Kristi Sanderson, Program Chair



Tips for July

- Weed-eat around the entrance to your hive.
- Wear as much protective clothing as you want, make sure you feel comfortable when working your hives so that you won't be afraid to get into them.
- Use your smoker each and every time you check your bees.
- Consider keeping bee tools in a box so that you can always find them.
- Work from the side or the back of the hive out of the bee flight path.
- Water is essential for you and your bees. Stay hydrated in the heat. If your bees don't have a reliable water source, provide water near the hive. A chicken or quail waterer with gravel in the tray makes a good bee water source.
- Harvest your earliest, lightest honey and keep it separate from later darker harvests. The contrast will make both honeys more valuable.
- Make note of what apiary each super was harvested from as floral sources are different.
- Prepare entries for local and state fairs.



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 either by email or text to let them know you are coming. (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 bee tasks for that month. Meetings are weather dependent. Our address is 19201 S Clare Rd, Spring Hill KS 66083. Remaining dates are; Monday, July 26 @ 0600pm; Monday, August 9th @ 6:00pm

Meet the Beek Lisa Tokach, DVM



Getting into beekeeping, for me, was like the British band 10cc's 1977 song, "The Things We Do for Love". If you are a regular follower of Meet the Beek, you will have read the May 2021 column from my son, Rogan Tokach. He is the reason I am a beekeeper. My day jobs as a mother of three and as a veterinarian at the Abilene Animal Hospital in Abilene, KS kept me plenty busy. As a veterinarian, I am naturally curious about science, animals, insects, life cycles, and communication, so learning about bees was not a big stretch. However, as Rogan told you in his story, it was his endless curiosity that took us into beekeeping. We already had horses, meat goats, cats, dogs, and fish at our house; not to mention, photography, foods, arts & crafts, home environment, sewing, quilting, performing arts and leadership projects through 4-H. But a deal is a deal; when Rogan read the book "Beekeeping for Dummies" and gave me the book

report, I knew we were gaining another project. What I didn't know is that it would end up being his career path.



Photo courtesy of Justin Lister

The Kansas Honey Producers Association's youth scholarship program was just the ticket. We started with bees in the spring of 2010. The absolute best part of this plan was having Steve and Becky Tipton as our mentors. They have been terrific teachers and great friends over the years. Rogan pulled me and his older sister into the project as beekeepers and his younger sister into the arts & crafts part where she used the wax to make candles and soap and wax-coated cloth wrappers. My husband took his role as chief financial advisor, so it was a family affair. We grew from 2 hives to 10, started a county-wide bee club, and developed a non-profit group called Honey for Heifer to raise funds for Heifer International through donations for honey.

Then, the inevitable happened. The kids grew up and we became empty nesters <cue Harry Chapin's *Cat's in the Cradle*>. Although I am proud of all three kids and love watching them officially "adulting," it is bittersweet, and I sometimes long for the crazy days of summer projects and preparing for the fair. It also forced me to make decisions in my own life about which projects got to stay and which had to go. By then, I really enjoyed beekeeping on my own. I had joined a couple of bee clubs and made my own connections. I kept the horses; the goats got exchanged for chickens (easier), and I still do a little

quilting myself as my youngest daughter got me hooked on that for my winter hobby.

I have found that I love teaching people about bees and beekeeping. It is wonderful to get someone who is deathly afraid of bees to put on a suit and see what goes on inside a beehive. Knowledge is power, and, once they understand how a bee colony works, they aren't as afraid. I love helping those who are interested in becoming beekeepers get a taste of beekeeping without them making such a huge financial investment until they are sure they want to do it.

As a person with a full-time veterinary job, I occasionally feel more like a bee-haver than a bee-keeper. I keep striving to do better. I remind myself how far we have come since that first spring day that Becky and Steve drove into our yard with our very first bees. We have learned to problem-solve colony issues, catch and prevent swarms, harvest honey, and pour candles. During challenging beekeeping times, I lean on my son Rogan and the other great mentors out there like Becky Tipton, Nikki Bowman, Joli Winer, Cheryl Burkhead, and Kristi Sanderson who have always been willing to give me a few minutes of their time to advise me on what to do next. I attend as many meetings as I can (not enough) and study books and videos to keep me up on the latest developments. I have enrolled in the Great Plains Master Beekeeping program through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and hope to complete the program at some point as time allows. I am always energized by attending talks given by great researchers such as Dr. Judy Wu-Smart, Dr. Tom Seeley, or Dr. Maria Spivak. NEKBA's Bee Fun Day is one of my favorite educational events of the year, including the veterinary conferences I attend.

In the future and as I move toward retiring from full time veterinary practice, I hope to learn to be a better beekeeper. Queen rearing is on my agenda. I would like to have an area queen bank to help everyone out with local queens when they need them. I will stay a bee hobbyist, not a large-scale honey producer like we read about in the fascinating story told by Stuart Dietz, who was featured last month. Regardless of size, I will continue to be a lifelong learner and advocate for the honey bee.

Lisa Tokach

ASK QUINBY & REMI



Dear Quinby and Remi- My bees are so mean, what can I do to calm them down while I work through my hives.

Quinby and Remi answer: Cecil and Joli have visited a few beekeepers last month who complained that they had mean bees. While there are many reasons why a hive might be mean-getting ready to swarm, queenless, bad genetics etc. The main reason seems to be that people are not using a smoker. Using a smoker is essential to keeping your hives calm as you work through them, kind of like an insurance policy. In the beginning of your beekeeping year, your hives are gentle because they have nothing to protect. But as they get stronger and have more honey, they get much more defensive. Yes, it is hard to keep one lit. But it is an important part of keeping bees. They have found that people are not using enough smoker fuel so that they are out of fuel before they even get started. Also, when you are finished with your smoker, you do not want to dump your lighted smoker fuel out on the ground because you can cause a fire. You'll want to block the smoker with a cork or green grass and set the smoker on its side and it will soon go out.

Dear Quinby and Remi: Do you have any hints on how to handle the frames? Also, any hints on how to see eggs?

Quinby and Remi answer: When going through your hive you want to be gentle with your frames. Gloves can be clunky, so you'll want to be careful not to squish your queen while doing a hive inspection. Stop and think as you lift out your frame, do you have enough room to take the frame out, so you don't roll your queen? Did you take out an outside frame so that you have room to move

your frames around? When lifting out a frame you'll want to get a good grip on the frame so that you are not tempted to set your frame down on the bottom bar and possibly squish the queen. Get a good grip and hang onto your frame.

The best way to see eggs is to get the sun to your back so that it is shining over your shoulder and hold the frame up, tilting it so that you can see in the cells. Look at frames that have brood that is emerging, usually the queen goes back and lays eggs on those frames.

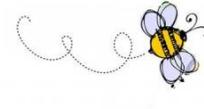
Dear Quinby and Remi: My super is almost full, but not quite – can I put on my next super?

Quinby and Remi answer: The honey flow is winding down, but you'll want to make sure you can get every drop of honey! You can manipulate the frames in your honey super. If your outside frames are not full you can move a full frame out to the edge and move the emptier frame into the center.

Dear Quinby and Remi answer: One of the owners where I keep my bees called and wanted to know why my bees were working in their oak tree? There were no flowers in bloom there.

Quinby and Remi answer: The bees are collecting honeydew honey. When Americans think of honey, most of us assume it comes from floral sources— basically bees collect flower nectar, add enzymes, and evaporate moisture to produce the finished product. Honeydew honey, the source is not floral but from the waste products of several sap-sucking insects including aphids, leafhoppers, and psyllids. Mealy bugs and scale insects are examples of psyllids and are known by gardeners as serious and pesky plant pests. Although it may be off-putting to think of eating insect excrement, honeydew honey is prized in parts of Europe and New Zealand and often fetches higher prices than floral honey. It is rich in mineral content, amino acids, and may have stronger antibacterial properties. When a psyllid insect or aphid ingests the plants sap, it digests the small amount of protein present and expels the rest of the water, sugars, tannins, and other indigestible material as honeydew. (From Bee Informed Partnership)

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



Kansas Honey Producers' **Extracting More \$\$\$ from your Hives-**

These new, free, virtual, Value-Added programs will be presented on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm via Zoom. It is being sponsored by the Kansas Honey Producers Association as part of our membership drive. If you are not a member, please consider joining by going to www.kansashoneyproducers.org It's only \$15 per year. You will receive an email before the programs with the link to register. If you registered for a previous program, you will automatically receive the link to view this month via email. To register for the meetings, click on the link below or copy it in your browser <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsdOiqqTwwHNxk7aeR5Hrw7LoC6boCY4dh> then Zoom will send you the link. Following are the next 2 programs:

Thursday, July 15th **Making Creamed Honey**, Brian Withrow presents and **Making Infused Honey**, Chad Gilliland presents.

Thursday, August 19th **Apitherapy, The Medicine Chest Known as the Bee Hive**, Reyah Carlson presents

These programs will be recorded and will be available on the <http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org/archives.html> website.



The Honey Pot

By Joli Winer

Honey Ice Cream with Fruit

6 Cups Whole Milk
6 Cups Heavy Cream
2 ¼ Cups Warm Honey
¼ tsp. Salt

- 3 Tablespoons Real Vanilla
- 1 Quart (4-5 Cups) Crushed Fruit-either frozen or fresh
- 2 extra tablespoons of either Sugar or Honey

If using frozen fruit, let thaw. Macerate the fruit with a food processor and mix with either 2 T. of either sugar or Honey, set aside. The extra sugar or honey will bring out the juice in the fruit and enhance the fruit flavor. Warm the 6 Cups of milk slightly and add the warmed honey stirring until combined. Pour into a container and let cool in the refrigerator. Pour into your freezer container and add salt and vanilla and heavy cream and your crushed fruit mixture. Fill the freezer can to the appropriate line adding more milk if needed. Freeze according to the manufacturer's instructions. Honey increases the freezing time plus extra ice and salt is needed. Makes 6 quarts. Note: If using peach as your fruit then substitute the Vanilla for Almond Extract.

Honey Ice Cream with Fruit

- 6 Cups Whole Milk
- 6 Cups Heavy Cream
- 2 ¼ Cups Warm Honey
- ¼ tsp. Salt
- 3 Tablespoons Real Vanilla
- 1 Quart (4-5 Cups) Crushed Fruit-either frozen or fresh
- 2 extra tablespoons of either Sugar or Honey

If using frozen fruit, let thaw. Macerate the fruit with a food processor and mix with either 2 T. of either sugar or Honey, set aside. The extra sugar or honey will bring out the juice in the fruit and enhance the fruit flavor. Warm the 6 Cups of milk slightly and add the warmed honey stirring until combined. Pour into a container and let cool in the refrigerator. Pour into your freezer container and add salt and vanilla and heavy cream and your crushed fruit mixture. Fill the freezer can to the appropriate line adding more milk if needed. Freeze according to the manufacturer's instructions. Honey increases the freezing time plus extra ice and salt is needed. Makes 6 quarts. Note: If using peach as your fruit then substitute the Vanilla for Almond Extract.

Vanilla Honey Ice Cream

- 6-7 Cups Whole milk
- 2 ½-3 Cups Honey
- 8 Eggs-well beaten
- ¼ tsp. Salt
- 6-7 Cups Heavy Cream
- 4 Tablespoons Real Vanilla

Heat 6 Cups milk in a saucepan over medium heat to approximately 150°. Do not boil. Stir in Honey and salt. Beat eggs. Stir a small amount of the milk and honey into the beaten eggs. Add all the egg mixture to the remaining milk and honey mixture, stirring well. Cook and stir over medium heat for 10 minutes or until the temperature reaches 165°. Cool thoroughly (overnight). Stir in cream and vanilla and fill the freezer can to the appropriate line adding more milk if needed. Freeze according to the manufacturer's instructions. Honey increases the freezing time plus extra ice and salt is needed. Makes 6 quarts.

Honey Chocolate Ice Cream

- 4 Cups Whole Milk
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ Cup Cocoa Powder
- 2 ½ Cups Honey
- 12 egg yolks-slightly beaten
- 8 oz. Semi-Sweet Chocolate Pieces
- 1 Tablespoon Real Vanilla
- 8 Cups Heavy Cream

Combine milk, salt, and cocoa powder in a saucepan over medium heat. Bring to a simmer and add honey. Do not boil. Stir in Honey. Beat egg yolks. Stir a small amount of the milk and honey into the beaten yolks. Add all the egg mixture to the remaining milk and honey and cocoa mixture, stirring well. Cook and stir over medium heat for 10 minutes or until the temperature reaches 165°. Remove from heat and add the chocolate pieces and stir until the chocolate is melted. Cool thoroughly (overnight). Stir in cream and vanilla and fill the freezer can to the appropriate line adding more milk if needed. Freeze according to the manufacturers' instructions. Honey increases the freezing time plus extra ice and salt is needed. Makes 6 quarts.

Honey Plants



Have you ever thought about how the shape of a flower can invite different pollinators? The honey bee pollinates a wide variety of flower shapes, however prefers the easy access of cone shaped flowers like

Black-eyed Susan or purple coneflowers. Larger bees, like bumblebees and carpenter bees, prefer to crawl inside tubular flowers.

Many flowers use visual cues to attract pollinators. Showy petal and sepals, nectar guides, shape, size, and color of a flower offer visual cues that attract a variety of pollinators. In the same manner, flowers can utilize those same visual cues to detract certain pollinators from feasting on their bountiful harvest of nectar and pollen.

Nectar guides are patterns in some flowers that guide pollinators to the nectar and pollen. In many bee-pollinated flowers, there is a region of low ultraviolet reflection near the center of each petal. The ultraviolet patterns are not invisible to us, as our vision does not detect ultraviolet light but the honeybees can detect. This contrasting ultraviolet pattern helps the bee to locate the flower's center.

Flower shape and size offers visual clues and a structure that allows specific pollinators to contact the flowers reproductive parts. While the cone shaped flower invites the honeybee and smaller native bees, non-hovering pollinators, like the beetle, need to have an easy landing pad with large flower petals. Butterflies seek out plants with long nectar spurs. These plants have fewer visitors thus offering a more abundant nectar load for them to access. Their long retracting tongue-like proboscis allows them to access nectaries that other pollinators can't reach.

As you are out and about during the hot dog days of July and August, look to see what is blooming in your area. These summer food sources for our bees are critical to nectar collection and the upcoming honey harvest. What I see on a regular basis now are the brilliant yellows of black-eyed Susan's and plains coreopsis, purple coneflowers, bee balm, butterfly milkweed, bachelor buttons, and blanket flower. Take a walk around the countryside or your neighborhood and see what is in bloom and inspect each flower for pollinator visits. Doing this leg work will help you to identify other flowering plant options for your pollinator gardens.

Chad Gilliland- Honey Plants Chairman

NORTHEASTERN KS BEEKEEPERS' ASSOC. 2021/2022 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 name _____		
(Youth Membership (18 years of age or under)	\$7.50	_____
Membership for Kansas Honey Producers Association	\$15.00	_____
American Bee Journal	1 year \$24.65	_____
Bee Culture Magazine (or subscribe online at www.BeeCulture.com)	1 year \$25.00	_____
Scholarship / Military/Veteran's Appr. Donation		_____
	Total	_____

Make checks payable to: NEKBA or Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assn.

Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202 ph. 913-481-3504, rburnshoney@gmail.com

You may join, re-new, register, donate and pay online at www.nekba.org

MENTORING-SWEET PRAIRIE HONEY

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

FISHER'S BEE SUPPLIES

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

THE HAWLEY HONEY COMPANY

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

JORDY'S HONEY

Beekeepers.com is your local Kansas City Bee Company. We carry a full line of Beekeeping Supplies, Bees and Queens. Visit our web site Beekeepers.com for your all your beekeeping supplies and to pre-order any items to be picked up at the Overland Park Farmer's Market. Go to our Web Site and QueenBees.com to order your Queens. We are available Monday-Friday 9:00-4:30, Saturday 9:00-12:00. Robert Hughes, 14054 W 107th St, Lenexa, KS 66215, 913-681-5777 or email Info@Beekeepers.com

COTTIN'S HARDWARE & RENTAL

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

Next to Nature Farm

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

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

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

Address Service Requested

Meeting via Zoom

Monday, July 19, 2021

The Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

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

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

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

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

2021 Officers

President: Ed Darlington , 2804 E 174th St., Belton, MO 64012	edarlington49@gmail.com	816-331-4934
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