

*Since 1948 Exploring the wonderful world of beekeeping together*

## The Bee Buzzer

*Monthly publication of the*

### Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

VOLUME 72, NUMBER 3

EDITOR: CHERYL BURKHEAD

MARCH 2020

#### General Meeting

**Monday, March 16, 2020 (7 p.m.)**

Douglas County Fairgrounds Bldg 21N  
2110 Harper St, Lawrence KS

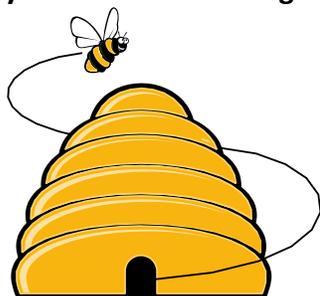
**Directions:** The address is 2110 Harper St. It is easily accessible from 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. Turn north on Harper Street and it is just a few blocks. We are in Building 21 North, which will be on your left after you turn into the fairgrounds.

**Main Program:** "Varroa Mite Control & Sugar Roll Testing". "Package installation"- Joli Winer & Cecil Sweeney  
"Making Splits and Nucs"- Steve Messbarger  
2019 Youth Scholarship Presentations by Johanna Boone & Dante Bushman

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#### Beelines

By President Ed Darlington



Starting with good news; my bees started bringing in white pollen this week, signaling all kinds of changes are about to take place for us beekeepers. On February 17, 2020, with 62F temperatures I saw my bees doing just that: risks aren't over, but we did pass one of the first milestones. As you all know I have attempted to paint a vision

where we interact with government agencies to drastically increase pollinator friendly acreage. The underlying goal for us is to provide better nutrition for our honeybees. My aim here is not to develop a Master Gardener's forum, but to inform with enough detail to generate interest in what is possibly a little-understood, or at least under-reported issue.

I was shocked to discover a major revelation: because of farming and homeowner practices of tilling and chemical applications; most of the soil in the United States is depleted. I think we are beginning to realize that adding more pesticides, herbicides, or fungicides isn't the correct answer for our bees; but how can we reverse the cycle and abandon practices that are hurting, not helping? For starters, we need to start at the beginning by increasing the nutrition and structure of our soils in order to get good healthy plants which, in turn, helps the whole food chain.

While this certainly changes what we thought our task was--and it may seem like a setback and now the mountain we need to climb just got immense--but in fact we are much better off dealing with root cause issues rather than attempting to treat symptoms. It may change our task from only dealing externally; especially with governmental agencies, to recognizing and learning internally that we also need to change our practices, and how we understand issues on our own properties.

We need to change our practices to produce good healthy soil. How have most of our lands have been depleted of both its structure and nutrition? Tilling is one of the most damaging things we can do to our soil.

Wilma and I have been gardeners for longer than I care to remember. And while we have attempted

to make improvements in the quality of our soil, we have also experienced setbacks. One noticeable one was when we have added compost and manure, we noticed an immediate increase in the growth of earth worms; and yet they dwindled out over a couple of years. I greatly suspect tilling was the main culprit.

Our soil is in fact, an ecosystem made up organic and inorganic minerals and elements like carbon, nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorous salts, acids, and alkaline. Additionally, in healthy soil there are myriads of living things like fungi and yeasts, bacteria, protozoa, nematodes, worms, and insects in different developmental stages all of which in turn stabilize and make the afore-mentioned nutrients available to plant roots.

I can't adequately cover this subject in a newsletter entry, but I can distill the research and provide some useful links for those interested.

I was more than a little surprised to learn that some of the worst soil conditions are being generated by organic food producers.

We have all known that keeping bees alive and healthy is not as simple as we would like; we can't simply identify a single-or even multiple causes and fix the problem. The deeper I dig, the more overwhelming the task appears.

While you can find all kinds of information on the web, it's a head-scratching project, trying to separate misinformation from valid actionable information.

An interesting piece of data was the healthiest soil is found in old growth forests. Second piece of the puzzle: no-till farming appears to be a major step to improving soil health. Third: improving soil is independent of size, from a planter box to 5,000 acres

Principals toward healthy soils:

- Minimize or limit mechanical or chemical disturbance, especially tilling
- Maintain plant residues as a barrier for soil, bare soil is the worst.
- Promote plant diversity; certain fungi are a very important ingredient
- Keep living roots in the soil as long as possible throughout the year.
- Integrate animals, easier on a farm setting than in a suburban one.

Some links of various lengths depend on your interest and current understanding of this issue. Amazing Garden Soil Transformation Using Wood Chips! (12 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCtafUgoCX0>

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Regeneration of Our Lands: A Producer's Perspective | Gabe Brown | TEDxGrandForks (16 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfTZ0rnwcc>

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Treating the Farm as an Ecosystem with Gabe Brown Part 1, The 5 Tenets of Soil Health (2.5hours)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUmlDq0D6-A&t=1713s>

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Book Title; "Dirt to Soil" by Gabe Brown



**2020 Meeting Dates: (Starting Time is 7pm at Douglas County Fairgrounds unless stated otherwise.)**

- Monday, March 16, 2020
- Monday, April 20, 2020
- Monday, May 18, 2020
- Monday, June 15, 2020
- Monday, July 13, 2020
- Monday, August 17, 2020
- Monday, September 21, 2020
- Monday, October 19, 2020
- Monday, November 16, 2020
- Monday, December 14, 2020

**Mark Your Calendars!**

- **Fun Day-** June 6, 2020





## O' Bee Gal

Steve and I talked about spring management at the February meeting and there are so many elements to spring beekeeping, we could probably have a talk every month about some aspect of spring management and not cover it all! Nearly every component of beekeeping is decision making; evaluate the hive and decide on the right course of action. It's tough. It's also why when you ask three different beekeepers, you'll often get three different answers. So, it's also confusing. Spring feeding is just such an example.

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

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

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

the girls will eat a tremendous amount of bee food to keep the larva nourished. They need abundant nectar and pollen for brood rearing.

How should you feed your bees? There are MANY feeder choices and not all feeders provide the same result. If you purchased a beekeeping kit, you likely received a Boardman style feeder. It fits in the entrance to your hive and holds a quart jar. This is really not the best choice. The syrup may drip slightly and entice bees from other hives to investigate the free food. If your hive is small (new or weak) this may start a robbing event. Once started, it is DIFFICULT to stop and can lead to the death of the new hive.

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



The feeder style we like best borrows from each of these types. We use jars with perforated lids but put them directly above the top bars. By using the perforated lids, we control the flow rate of feed to the bees—little chance of them filling the brood area with excess feed as they often do with a Miller-type feeder. If we only want to provide a

little stimulation for brood rearing, we will only punch a few holes. When we use these same feeders in the fall, we give greater access with more holes. The placement of the jars directly above the top bar allows access even when the temperature dips and bees are confined to the hive. Steve has built feeder lids to hold our jars but you can set the jar above the inner cover. You will need an extra deep super box to cover the jar and protect the hive. (see attached picture)

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

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

Becky Tipton

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Please don't forget to renew your membership!

*If you care about us, as we care about you,  
You'll make no delay and send in your dues-  
We try awful hard; we work without pay-  
To help you keep bees, in a practical way.  
Your continued support, will help us grow;  
The Editor and staff- thought you'd like to know.*

## Meet the Beeks



In 1973 Joli Winer decided to quit college (University of Montana) and knew she needed a job before she told her parents. She had a friend who worked for a beekeeper in Colusa, California. She contacted Howard Foster at Foster Apiaries and asked for a job. Luckily, Howard was president that year of the American Beekeeping Federation.

Howard hired Joli to run his queen yard. That included hand dipping beeswax queen cells, grafting, maintaining the breeder queens and managing all aspects of the commercial queen rearing operation. She did this for 3 years, taking one year off to go to South America to visit beekeepers in Columbia and taking one summer off to work for commercial beekeepers in Grand Prairie, Alberta, Canada. Joli returned to Kansas City where she worked as a director of a LaPetite Academy and had 10 bee hives.

Joli went back to school (KU) to finish her education. As part of her internship, she had to teach a beekeeping class through Johnson County Park and Recreation. Taking that class were two men who owned a company called Mid-Continent Agri marketing, aka Mid-Con. The two men, Al Paul (I can’t remember the other man’s name) hired Joli to run the beekeeping part of the business. They had the rights to sell the drug for honey bees for Nosema Apis called Fumidil-B, an old Abbott product.

While working for Mid-Con, Joli went to many national beekeeping meetings to promote the

Fumidil-B. In August of 1987 she went to the EAS meeting in Blacksburg, VA and took the EAS Short course. She had a booth as a vendor at the EAS meeting. While at the short course, she met Cecil Sweeney, a firefighter and beekeeper from Roanoke, VA. After seeing each other 5 times they got married in a small ceremony on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 1987.

Cecil packed up and moved to Overland Park with his 40 bee hives. He did remodel work until they purchased the beekeeping part of Mid-Con in 1988. They worked hard growing the local beekeeping business, selling Fumidil-B nationally and internationally. They had the product manufactured for them. In 2006, the FDA wanted the manufacturing instructions for the Fumidil-B re-made and brought up-to-date with new powder regulations. They simply did not have the hundreds of thousands of dollars to do that. So, in 2006 they closed Mid-Con and moved the beekeeping supply business to their home, renaming it "Heartland Honey & Beekeeping Supply".

Over the years they sold nucs, package bees, and bee supplies. Joli & Cecil have been very active in the local beekeeping clubs –being officers in both the Midwestern Beekeepers Association, the Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association and the Kansas Honey Producers Association. In 1994 they started selling honey at the Overland Park Farmers Market and have been selling there ever since, adding more value-added products each year.

Joli was the NEKBA newsletter editor for 24 years. Prior to that, she served as treasurer. Currently, she is serving as the Youth Scholarship Chairperson.

Cecil is doing a second stint as librarian. In past terms, he has been the Treasurer and Program Chair. They have given many beekeeping classes over the years and frequently give talks to the public. They have also given many talks to clubs all over the United States and at national meetings. They were instrumental in working with others in the club in getting the NEKBA Beginning Beekeeping Class started. The first Funday, June

5<sup>th</sup>, 1994 was at their home in Spring Hill, where one of their hives swarmed, which was the first swarm demonstration with Chip Taylor!

As they are getting older, they are cutting down on some of their obligations. They no longer sell bee supplies. In addition, this year is the first year in 31 years that they are not selling package bees. Over the years, they have had as many as 250 colonies except they are now very comfortable at around 125.

They took a break from their mentoring classes last year but plan to start up again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at their house, beginning on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. It is loosely organized but they go through hives with whoever shows up and talk about what people should be doing with their colonies each month-cost is \$10 per person with the money going to the youth and military mentorship programs. Veterans are exempt from paying.

Joli says that she only married Cecil because he had a Dadant 6/12 electric extractor and she only had a 4-frame hand extractor.

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## HONEY PLANTS

"Bee Food for Thought"



Are all plants created equal to the honeybee? A question if asked to the general public would have varied answers. In my experience I have found that the average person believes that most flowers are created equal with regards to food quality for honeybees and native pollinators. Knowing some simple plant facts will improve your success when planting for pollinators. Highly hybridized plants have been bred not to seed and thus produce very little pollen for bees. Double headed flowers look showy but produce much less nectar and make it much more difficult for bees to access the pollen.

Planning for blooms year-round that have a high-quality nectar and pollen source will improve your beekeeping success. Planting multiple flower types in your bee garden will ensure blooms

through as many seasons as possible and offer a constant source of food. Crocus, hyacinth, borage, calendula, and lilac provide enticing Spring blooms. Honeybees feast on bee balm, cosmos, echinacea, snapdragons, foxglove, and hostas in the Summer. For Fall, zinnias, sedum, and asters are just a few late bloomers that will tempt foragers.

To increase nectar and pollen diversity, selecting herbs as a bee garden addition is also a must. Rosemary, catmint, lavender, nasturtium, sage, basil, oregano, thyme, chives, lemon balm, and mint provide flowers that are especially helpful to honeybees and native pollinators. Be careful though as several of the herbs listed have a propensity to spread and can take over a flower garden in just a couple of growing seasons.

When wanting to maximize space and potential quantities of flowers per square foot, think trees. Little-leaf linden, redbud, black locust, crab apples, magnolia, tulip poplar, serviceberry, and wild black cherry are all great choices to add to your landscape.

With Spring just around the corner begin adding diversity for your bees and plan for continual bloom throughout the growing season. Focus on planting native and stay away from hybrids that can be a nectar and pollen desert for honey bees and native pollinators. Support your local small business greenhouse growers and be careful with big box retailers that offer plants for sale, as some of their plant inventory could be treated with systemic insecticides that offer season long control against insect damage and could potentially be toxic to all forms of pollinating insects.

Chad Gilliland



### Tips for March

- Consider helping a neighbor get started in beekeeping by selling them a split from your hive. You can buy a queen from a queen breeder or local bee supply. This could keep your bees from swarming later in the year.
- Resolve to keep better records for 2020.

- Equalize hives to minimize swarming; brood from healthy hives may be transferred to a weaker colony. Food frames could also be shared. **WARNING:** never move frames unless you know where your queen is. **Find the queen first.** Never make an exception to this rule.
- You should have several frames of brood in your hives now. If you don't, then you have a problem. It may be your queen or there aren't enough nurse bees to take care of the brood. The queen won't lay more eggs than the workers can care for or keep warm.
- Scrape off your bottom board.
- Check the level of your hives, they should tip slightly forward.
- Entrance reducers can be removed any time after April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Check colonies for food-if they need food, feed. If they have food-don't feed unless you want to make some splits or increases-if you feed too much it encourages swarming. Know what your plan is for your hives before you take actions that have consequences. Bad weather can limit foraging opportunities for your bees. Feed 1:1 sugar syrup (by weight) to stimulate brood rearing -this translates to 1- 4 lb. bag of sugar to ½ gallon of hot water.
- Check pollen stores, usually pollen is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> frame in on both sides-the outside frame is usually honey and the next frame in is usually pollen.
- Put a swarm trap in your bee yard. Bees are valuable.
- Evaluate your brood patterns to decide if you need to requeen your hive.
- Reverse your brood chambers if and only if your brood is all in the upper box-if it is in two hive bodies then leave it as it is.
- Replace any old or damaged comb-specifically any comb that has been damaged by mice.
- If you plan to treat for varroa mite, it is best to treat early when you have lower bee populations.
- Mark your calendar for Funday, Saturday, June 6 and plan to attend!

## Ask Quinby & Remi



**Dear Quinby and Remi-**I was wondering about the various ways of marking queens. One way is to cut one of the queen's wings as a way to let you know the age of the queen. I worry that this might hurt the queen. I also heard that this method can keep the hive from swarming. I understand that there is a universal color code, what is this year's color and what are the best paints to use.

### Quinby and Remi answer-

There is an international color code for marking queens. In years that end in 5 or 0 the color is blue, 1 or 6 the color is white, 2 or 7 the color is yellow, 3 or 8 the color is red 4 or 9 the color is green

The bee supply dealers carry a good marking pen with quick drying paint. Our humans have also purchased quick drying enamel marking pens at Office Max or Depot, Joanne's, Hobby Lobby or other craft stores. Quick drying are the key words to look for. Beekeepers can also use model paint to mark the queen.

I researched the answer to the first part of the question-does clipping the queen's wing cause her pain? I couldn't find an answer so I emailed a few of our friends. Dr. Larry Connor sent the following response- "Does clipping cause pain in the queen? No. The veins in her wings dried up during the pupal to adult molt. There are no nerves there. It may be possible that the complete removal of a wing may interfere with a queen's balance, so we never recommend that severe a removal. Removal of 1/5th to 1/4 of the wing marks the queen so she can be identified."

The one positive clipping effect is bees might lose mark but not clipping. The big negative is

clipping done to control swarming is worthless.

Sometimes clipping is used to mark the age of the queen, clipping on the right is done on even years and on the left in odd years. An inexperienced beekeeper can damage the queen by trying to clip her wings and missing!

Clipping the queen does not keep the hive from swarming. While a queen can't fly out of a hive with a part of a wing missing, the hive will then wait for a virgin queen to emerge from a swarm cell and they will swarm with her. Clipping a queen's wing will only slow the process down until a virgin is old enough to fly, usually at about 5 days after emergence.

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Quinby is named after Moses Quinby who invented the bee smoker. Quinby and Remi would love to answer your questions and tell your stories please email them to Joli joli@heartlandhoney.com.



### Monthly Mentoring

On the second Monday of the month, beginning on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm, Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney will hold mentoring classes at their home located at 19201 S Clare Rd. Spring Hill KS, 66083. During these classes, beekeepers can go through hives with them and talk about any issues they may be having. Their goal is to make sure that everyone can see eggs, larva, queens and the various stages of brood. Please bring your beekeeping suits and let them know you are coming. (Call or text) 913-593-3562 or email joli@heartlandhoney.com The cost is \$10 per person with the money going to the youth scholarship and military mentorship program. Veterans are exempt from paying a fee. Additional Monday dates are: May 11, June 8<sup>th</sup>, July 20<sup>th</sup>, August 10<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup>.



**The Honey Pot by Becky Tipton**

I don't think anything in the world tastes better than warm bread, real butter and my sweet clover honey. My family thinks I'm expressing my love for them when I bake but it's really because nothing completes a meal any better. When I die and go to heaven (at least I hope that's the general direction of my travels) I'm sure it will smell like fresh baked bread.

Why should you add honey to bread recipes? Honey is hygroscopic; it holds water at a molecular level. That makes your bread stay moist and fresh longer. It also browns quite nicely adding a beautiful golden-brown color to your bread. Honey also adds a delicate sweetness that is perfect with bread grains.

This recipe is the ultimate in simple bread. The oats are perfect with the honey! The recipe doesn't even require kneading. If you are skittish about yeast, use a thermometer to test your water. Proof the yeast in ¼ cup of water at 105-115 °. The dough will rise best (yeast is multiplying and growing) at about 95 °. My oven has a "bread proof" setting that gives me great results.

This bread makes amazing toast.

This recipe is from the Iowa Honey Producers recipe book.

**Honey Oatmeal Casserole Bread**

- 1 pkg. (1 scant TBSP) dry yeast
  - 1 ¼ c. water—divided
  - ½ c. butter
  - ¼ c. honey
  - 1 cup rolled oats (I used old fashioned but quick will work, too)
  - 3 ¼ c. flour (all purpose, unbleached)
  - 1 tsp. salt
  - 2 eggs
- Soften yeast in ¼ c. warm water—set aside. In a small sauce pan, warm water and add butter, honey, and oatmeal. Cool to lukewarm. Pour into a mixer bowl and add 1 ½ cups of flour and salt. Mix and add eggs and yeast. Add remaining flour and mix to make a soft dough. Cover the mixer bowl and set aside to rise for 1 hour. Heat oven to 375 °. Pour soft bread dough into a well-greased 2-quart casserole bowl. Bake 50-55 minutes. Cool 10 minutes and remove from bowl.

**NORTHEASTERN KS BEEKEEPERS' ASSOC. 2020 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	1 year \$25.00 _____
Scholarship / Military/Veteran's Appr. Donation	_____
<b>Total</b>	_____

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

Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54<sup>th</sup> Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202 ph. 913-481-3504, [rburnshoney@gmail.com](mailto:rburnshoney@gmail.com)

**Now you can re-new, register, and pay online at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org)**

## Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association

**Fun Day June 6, 2020**

*Beekeeping With 20/20 Vision*

Join us for a fun educational event for beekeepers of all skill levels. Funday will be held from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, 2120 Harper St., Lawrence, KS. This will be a great opportunity to hear notable beekeeping educators and industry speakers. Concurrent classes will be used to accommodate all the topics and speakers. The day will be highlighted with a swarm demonstration. The fee includes lunch, honey tasting with Wheatfield's Artisan breads, home-made ice cream, and an opportunity to connect with fellow beekeepers. A silent auction will take place and vendors will be present for on-sight purchases.

To learn more and to register visit [www.nekba.org/bee-funday.html](http://www.nekba.org/bee-funday.html). Discounts available for registration prior to May 27, 2020.

For those traveling, a block of rooms has been set aside for attendees at the Country Inn & Suites, 2176 E 23rd St, Lawrence, KS 66046. (785) 749-6010. Mention NEKBA Funday to receive a discounted price.



**Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda:** Prior to her work at the University of Tennessee, Jennifer was the beekeeping specialist at Clemson University and is past president of the American Association of Professional Apiculturists. Her extensive research interests include foraging behavior, nutrition, reproductive physiology, and genetics. Dr. Tsuruda is an Assistant Professor and Apiculture Specialist from the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. She was such an energetic and fun speaker at the KHPA 2019 fall meeting in Wichita, we think you will enjoy hearing her speak at Funday as well.

**Dr. Elina Niño:** Dr. Niño is the California State Extension Apiculturist and established the California Master Beekeeper Program in 2016. She operates the E.L. Niño Bee Lab at the University of California Davis. Dr. Niño is also the facilities director of the Häagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven located on the campus grounds at UC Davis. Dr. Niño's research interests are broad and range from understanding reproductive processes involved in queen bee mating to developing and evaluating new control methods to combat Varroa.

**Dr. Judy Wu-Smart:** Dr. Wu-Smart is the Extension and Research Entomologist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Entomology. Judy received her doctorate in Entomology from the University of MN under the direction of Dr. Marla Spivak. She is in the process of establishing a Master Beekeeper Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. We appreciate Dr. Wu-Smart's presentations at past Fundays, and we are fortunate that she is returning.

**Beth Conrey:** Beth is the owner and operator of Bee Squared Apiaries, Berthoud, Colorado. 20 years ago, Beth began with 2 hives. Today she and her husband manage 125 colonies in 3 counties. Visitors to her website, [www.bethsbees.com](http://www.bethsbees.com), can shop from a variety of products, produced from the hive, including varietal honey, bee pollen, and candles.

**Dr. Matthew Smart:** Matthew Smart is a research assistant professor in the Entomology Department at UNL. His research is focused on the impacts of land use, habitat, nutritional resources and other biotic and abiotic stressors on pollinator health and productivity. Specific areas of interest include understanding the

spatiotemporal utilization of forage resources by pollinators in the context of varying habitat conditions and resulting impacts on health and ecosystem service delivery of pollinators.

**Louann Hausner:** Louann is a 3rd generation beekeeper and was the 1996 American Honey Princess. As an American Honey Princess, she gained experience as a National Spokesperson. She has spent her career furthering her skill in public relations and marketing at John Deere. Louann has volunteered her time over the last 21 years to conduct the media training for the American Beekeeping Federation American Honey Queen & Princess. Originally from Wisconsin, Louann currently resides in Lenexa, KS. She will share with us her knowledge on how we can be ambassadors for honey bees.

**Robin Kolterman:** Robin has kept children and youth scholarship students engaged in past Fundays. She offers several honey bee related sessions just for youth.

**Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers’ Funday Registration Form**

2020 Beekeeping Fun Day, Saturday June 6th, 2020

Douglas County Fairgrounds, 2110 Harper St., Lawrence, KS

Registration: 7:30-8:30 –Program: 8:30-5:00

**Need More Info? Please contact Jo Patrick at (913) 645-8947 or [brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net)**

**You can register and pay online at [WWW.NEKBA.ORG](http://WWW.NEKBA.ORG). Your contact information will be provided to the club through PayPal—please list additional attendee names in the PayPal notes section**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone# \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of the Northeast KS Beekeepers  I am **not** a member of the Northeast KS Beekeepers  
I would like to be a member--Club Membership ½ year \$7.50 (membership not required) \_\_\_\_\_  
 I would like to receive my Buzzer Newsletter by **e-mail**  I would like to receive my Buzzer by **mail**

**Registration for Funday:**

**Adults \$55 per person (\$65.00 if paid after May 27th)** \_\_\_\_\_

*Registration includes admission to the Funday, Wheatfield’s artisan breads, honey butter and a selection of creamed honey, lunch, drinks and homemade honey ice cream. There will be an alternative meal available at lunch for vegetarians. How many?* \_\_\_\_\_

Youth (6-18) \$20.00 (\$25.00 if paid after May 27nd) \_\_\_\_\_

Youth 5 and under free

Optional evening dinner with guest speakers \$27 per person \_\_\_\_\_

**Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check out to “Northeast KS Beekeepers or NEKBA” or register and pay online at [WWW.NEKBA.ORG](http://WWW.NEKBA.ORG)**

**Or register by mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202 913-481-3504**

**Email : [rburnshoney@gmail.com](mailto:rburnshoney@gmail.com)**

**Names of those attending so name tags can be made:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

We appreciate early pre-registrations so much that at the end of the Funday we will hold a drawing of all preregistered people and one person gets his registration fee back!

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

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## FISHER'S BEE SUPPLIES

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

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## THE HAWLEY HONEY COMPANY

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

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## JORDY'S HONEY

[Beekeepers.com](http://Beekeepers.com) is your local Kansas City Bee Company. We carry a full line of Beekeeping Supplies, Bees and Queens. Visit our web site [Beekeepers.com](http://Beekeepers.com) for your all your beekeeping supplies. Go to our Web Site [BeePackages.com](http://BeePackages.com) to order your Bee Packages and [QueenBees.com](http://QueenBees.com) to order your Queens. We are available by appointment Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00 and weekends. Robert Hughes, 12333 Wedd Street, Overland Park, KS 66213, 913-681-5777 or email [RobertLHughes2000@yahoo.com](mailto:RobertLHughes2000@yahoo.com)

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## COTTIN'S HARDWARE & RENTAL

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

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## GOLDEN PRAIRIE HONEY FARMS & SAVE FARM AGRICULTURAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Our active duty & veteran students learn skills in woodworking & metal work by building beekeeping equipment, while learning beekeeping & honey production in our apiaries and extracting kitchen. We sell beekeeping supplies, containers, bottled & bulk honey, Packaged Bees, and Nucleus Bees. A Charitable, Educational Non-Profit, 501(c)(3), Proceeds go back into the training program. Hours Mon - Fri, 9-4. Golden Prairie Honey Farms, 8859 Green Valley Dr., Ste 4, Manhattan, KS 66502 Phone: (785) 370-3642 - Email [gphfarms@gmail.com](mailto:gphfarms@gmail.com) or order online at [goldenprairiehoney.com](http://goldenprairiehoney.com)

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## Next to Nature Farm

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

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**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 54<sup>th</sup> Terr  
Shawnee Mission KS 66202-1129

## Address Service Requested

### Meeting

Monday, March 16, 2020

### ***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 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 month of January. Beekeeping classes are held in January and February for 2020. This is a non-profit organization; elected officers serve without pay. Everyone is invited to attend the meetings. Check *The Buzzer* or website at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org) each month for the actual date, time and location. If the weather is bad, call an officer or check the website to find out if the meeting will be held.

#### **2020 Officers**

President: <b>Ed Darlington</b> , 2804 E 174th St., Belton, MO 64012 <a href="mailto:edarlington@kc.rr.com">edarlington@kc.rr.com</a>	816-331-4934
1st VP (Program Chair): <b>Steve Messbarger</b> , 9802 S Burr Oak Circle, De Soto KS 66018 <a href="mailto:smessbarger55@gmail.com">smessbarger55@gmail.com</a>	913-226-2849
2nd VP (Librarian): <b>Cecil Sweeney</b> , 19201 S Clare Rd, Spring Hill, KS 66083 <a href="mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com">joli@heartlandhoney.com</a>	913-593-3851
3rd VP (Honey Plants): <b>Chad Gilliland</b> , 23338 Kissinger Rd, Leavenworth, KS 66028 <a href="mailto:nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com">nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com</a>	785-491-1978
Secretary: <b>Sara Murry</b> 20785 S Walker Rd., Spring Hill, KS 66083 <a href="mailto:smmurry6@gmail.com">smmurry6@gmail.com</a>	913-530-2441
Treasurer: <b>Robert Burns</b> , 7601 W 54 <sup>th</sup> Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202 <a href="mailto:rburnshoney@gmail.com">rburnshoney@gmail.com</a>	913-481-3504
Youth Scholarship Chair: <b>Joli Winer</b> , 19201 S. Clare Rd. Spring Hill KS 66083 <a href="mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com">joli@heartlandhoney.com</a>	913-593-3562
Military/Veteran Appr. Liaison: <b>Andy Nowachek</b> , 10921 W 91 <sup>st</sup> Terr, Shawnee Mission KS <a href="mailto:awn@everestkc.net">awn@everestkc.net</a>	913-438-5397
Editor: <b>Cheryl Burkhead</b> , 4521 SE 61st St., Berryton, KS 66409 <a href="mailto:cbfritz@aol.com">cbfritz@aol.com</a>	785-224-9077
Special Events Coordinator (Class): <b>Becky Tipton</b> , 9491 X Road, Meriden, KS 66512 <a href="mailto:bstbees@embarqmail.com">bstbees@embarqmail.com</a>	785-484-3710
Special Events Coordinator (Funday): <b>Jo Patrick</b> , 611 E Sheridan, Olathe KS 66061 <a href="mailto:brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net">brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net</a>	913-645-8947
Webmaster: <b>Robert Burns</b> , 7601 W 54 <sup>th</sup> Terr., Shawnee Mission, KS 66202 <a href="mailto:rburnshoney@gmail.com">rburnshoney@gmail.com</a>	913-481-3504

Visit our Website at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org)