

*Since 1948 Exploring the wonderful world of beekeeping together*

## **The Bee Buzzer**

*Monthly publication of the*

### **Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association**

VOLUME 73, NUMBER 5

EDITOR: CHERYL BURKHEAD

May 2021

#### **General Meeting**

**Monday, May 17, 2021 (7 p.m.)**

**Join Us for a ZOOM Meeting**

*"In the comfort of your own home"*

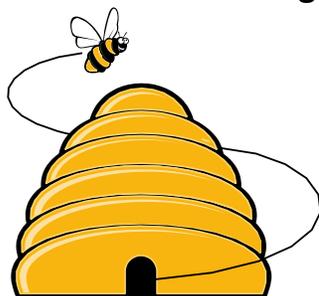
Download the Zoom App and watch from your computer, smartphone, or tablet  
Log in instructions will be posted on the [www.NEKBA.org](http://www.NEKBA.org) website.

**Main Program:** When to add honey supers for extracted honey. Adding supers with foundation vs supers with drawn comb and topics related to supering your hive-Bruce & Susan Lane. Producing comb honey; what hives to put them on and when-Becky Tipton.

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#### **Beelines**

**By President Ed Darlington**



In the past, I have discussed some of my experiments for treating bees to help them survive. One of the experiments has been the thermal treatment of the hive for the reduction of varroa mites. I have not reported my positive results and success; because of concern for potential

unintended consequences. I like the concept of the fact it doesn't use chemicals.

When we become ill, we often develop a fever. This is the body's natural way of fighting off the bacteria or flu bugs.

I had an attraction to understand if thermal treatment of honeybees would, in fact, eliminate or reduce varroa mites in a colony without the use of chemicals.

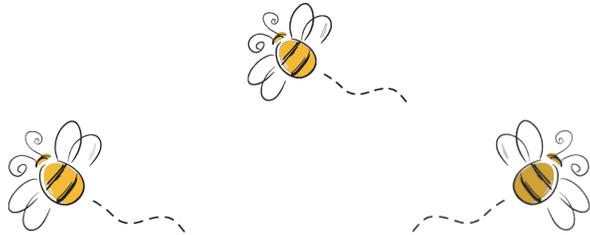
So, why am I drawn toward thermal treatment? Compared to other treatment forms, it is complicated, time consuming, requires electrical power at the hive, and on the front end, expensive. Its current form would not be conducive for many beekeepers. Many improvements, advances, and successful data would be required before being accepted. My hope is that they will be forthcoming. I decided to perform some experiments on my own. While treatments have been very successful, I have been concerned with the lack of collaborating data and the potential effect on drones and queens.

At a Missouri Beekeepers conference several years ago, I bought a Thermal Industries microprocessor-controlled heater, which raises the temperature in the hive to a specific and precise temperature for a prescribed time.

Unless great strides are made in the method of applying this treatment, it will never become main stream. But is most likely of great interest to those beekeepers that wish not to use chemicals in their hives. One of the terms thrown around is natural beekeeping, often stating it is better to not treat the bees in any way and depend on the bees to deal with whatever pest is attacking them. While this sounds like a possible solution, as honeybees have been around for a long time and have

survived, it is extremely naïve and apparently doesn't accomplish its intended goal.

Articles on thermal treatment for varroa mite control, have appeared in recent issues of American Bee Journal by Randy Oliver. You can find the articles in March 2021 volume 161 #3 pages 289 -294 and April 2021 volume 161 #4 pages 407-413. They provide a balanced look at the current state of this type of treatment. It's a good read and I hope we continue to make advances on this front.



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

- May 17, 2021
- June 5, 2021 Fun Day via Zoom
- June 7, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- June 21, 2021- In person meeting at the Pollinator Project Garden in Olathe. This is an outdoor event with lots of space for everyone to social distance. \*\*\*
- July 5, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- July 12, 2021

\*\*\*The June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting will be our 1<sup>st</sup> in person meeting. We are going to meet outside at the Pollinator Prairie Garden in Olathe which is located at 320 S Blake St. This meeting will start at 6:30 and we are asking that you bring your own sack supper, beverage, and favorite lawn chair. The club is providing honey ice cream that will be packaged in individual serving cups. We have Chip Taylor, Professor Emeritus Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at KU as well as the founder of Monarch Watch, Sami Aaron an Extension Master Naturalist, Jo Patrick a master beekeeper in training and perhaps a few others who haven't committed yet as guest speakers coming for this evening of fun together outside.



### **Ol' Bee Gal**

If I can't be a good example, then let me be a horrible warning! On April 12<sup>th</sup>, Steve and I were working in a bee yard in an orchard. It was a lovely day and a beautiful location. That evening, while showering, I found 3 tiny, tiny ticks attached to my body. One was on my shin and the other two had nestled into the fat roll along my back. Those were a little harder to get to but I was able to easily scratch off all three with a finger nail. I thought no more about any one of them because I have probably removed hundreds of ticks in my lifetime. About 48 hours later, I started feeling not so terrific: fever, chills, body aches, joint aches, headache, fatigue, etc. Follow this with a rash all over my face, and a few other unpleasant symptoms.... you get the idea. I don't have any idea which of the dastardly little beasts carried whatever it is that's making my life miserable, but I am miserable. There was no obvious infection at the bite location but tick-borne disease is what it appears to be. I've had a series of blood tests but the test for antibodies is still outstanding. (I also had to have a COVID test to rule that out—UGH.) So, a full 3 weeks later, I don't have the energy to do anything and all the spring time chores are piling up. Here is my warning.... wear some bug repellent when you go to the bee yard.

Here is my favorite recipe and one we've used for years. It really works but you do have to actually apply the product before going to the bee yard.

#### **Buzz Sticks**

6 oz. Beeswax

6 oz. Almond oil

6 oz. Cocoa Butter

Melt in a double boiler

Stir in

2 tsp. vitamin E-oil

1 oz. citronella EO

.5 oz. Eucalyptus EO

.5 oz. Lavender EO

.5 oz. Mint EO

.2 oz. Bergamot EO

.2 oz. Lemongrass EO

(EO = essential oil) (oz. = ounces by weight)

I pour these into push up tubes for easy application but any mold will work. This is the same base recipe as my favorite lotion bars.

There's a pretty funny story that goes with this recipe, too. We did a farmer's market on the grounds of the capitol building. State workers would walk by during their breaks and buy honey and whatever was being sold. One day after market I received a call asking if my "Buzz-Off" natural insect repellent sticks were registered with the state of Kansas. (I'm quite sure they knew they were not registered or they wouldn't have been calling me.) Apparently, you cannot call a product an insecticide or an insect repellent unless it is registered with the state, even if the ingredients are only essential oils. For a mere \$100/product/year, I could get my Buzz sticks registered. We made a change in the labeling—no more mosquito on the label, no more mention of natural insect repellent. My label has a little tent camper and an extra sticker on the lid that says, "contains citronella." Everyone knows citronella is a natural insect repellent and that apparently makes everyone happy. Bee safe, bee well.

**Becky Tipton, Special Events Coordinator**



### Mentoring

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

using a smoker and a hive tool. We also talk about bee tasks for that month. Meetings are weather dependent. Our address is 19201 S Clare Rd, Spring Hill KS 66083. Remaining dates are: Monday, May 10 @ 6:00pm; Monday, June 10 @ 0600pm; July- No Meeting; Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm



### Military/Veterans Apprenticeship Program

May has special meanings with Memorial Day on Monday, May 31 and the display of our American Flag, flying high, honoring the men and women who sacrificed their lives, so that we could live in our free country.

The red poppy was declared the American Legion's official flower on September 27, 1920 and it is an internationally recognized symbol of the sacrifice given by our men and women. On May 28, poppies will be for sale by the American Legion, which supports many programs helping our military veterans. If you get a chance to purchase a poppy, it would be a way to display our thanks to those who have given so much so that we may continue to do the things we enjoy with friends and family.

**Andy Nowachek, Military/Veteran Appr. Liaison**



### Youth Scholarship

The students have all received their package bees and have laying queens. The hives are growing along with the students growing in their knowledge of beekeeping! Many thanks to the mentors who pass along their knowledge to others.



## Online Auction for the Funday

The club will have an online auction to benefit the Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association. The auction will run from Friday, June 4 at 9 am to Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. You do not have to attend the Funday to participate in the auction. The link will be available in the May Buzzer, on the [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org) website, and the NEKBA Facebook site.

If you would like to donate an item, please fill out the form that is available at the [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org) website. You can either scan the form and send or take a picture and send. If I can get someone to make a .PDF to fill out online, I will do that! Remember, to attach a picture. You can include up to 3 pictures. Pictures/images need to be .JPG, .TIF, or .GIF. .PDF and HTML will not work. Send the form to [Joli@heartlandhoney.com](mailto:Joli@heartlandhoney.com). We need all the information on the form to get your item entered in the online platform. If you have any questions, feel free to email or call Joli at 913-593-3562. All forms must be returned by June 1<sup>st</sup>.



## Tips for May

- Check for ticks. They love beekeepers.
- When supering your hives, add more than one super at a time if you have drawn comb. If you have new foundation, add only one super at a time and start with ten frames. Put your second super on after the first one is almost filled.
- Use queen excluders to prevent brood in your honey supers.
- Double-check medication dates-safety matters. Don't misuse any chemicals in the hive. Follow all time guidelines. Never medicate hives with supers on them. It is illegal. Read the label(s).

- Keep the grass mowed in front of your hives-it makes it easier for the bees to land. Old carpet scraps, roof shingles, or weed barriers can be used to keep the grass under control.
- Keep supers on until the honey is capped as unripe honey will ferment.
- Do not feed sugar syrup during a honey flow as the bees will store the syrup in your supers rather than nectar.
- Don't get excited on hot humid days, if the bees are hanging outside the hive. This is called "bearding". They are trying to relieve the congestion in the hive to draw down moisture. Earlier in the year, this is an indication of overcrowding and swarming, but during the nectar flow, it is natural, so don't worry.
- Keep up with your record-keeping, so next year you'll know which hives produced the best for you.

## Meet the Beek Rogan Tokach



Everyone has their own unique story about how their beekeeping journey started. For me, I was at my local county fair when I spotted a new honey bee booth with an observation hive. After a couple minutes of looking, and maybe some help from the beekeeper, I was able to spot the queen. Right then, I was hooked. I would proceed to return to pester the beekeeper with questions every day for

the remainder of the week wanting to learn more about honey bees. Later, after the fair was over, I told my mom that I wanted to look into beekeeping. In response, my mom bought me *Beekeeping for Dummies* and told me that if I read the whole thing, she would help me look into it. Believing I was not serious, she thought that buying a \$20 book would ensure I would become disinterested saving her from financing a potentially expensive hobby. It has been eleven years since I read that book, and in that time, I have become a beekeeper, started a service project focused around my bees, created a local beekeeping club, worked for a commercial beekeeping industry, graduated from college, and began working on a master's project focusing on how pesticides impact queens and the colony.



Rogan at age 12 extracting honey

My beekeeping journey would not have gotten very far off the ground without help from the Kansas Honey Producer's Association and their youth scholarship program. Shortly after reading *Beekeeping for Dummies*, my mom, staying true to her word, helped look into beekeeping opportunities in KS. We stumbled across KHPA's youth scholarship program, and my sister and I were fortunate enough to apply and receive two packages of bees, hive equipment, and additional beekeeping supplies. Most importantly though, we were able to tap into the knowledge and experience from our two mentors, Steve and Becky Tipton. Very rarely were our hive inspection notes complete until an answer was received to various photos and questions we had after going through a colony. It was with their help that I had a successful

first year and fell in love with beekeeping, thus making it a career path for the future. A couple years later, I applied for the scholarship again as a way to start a beekeeping club in my area. This time, with the help of KHPA and 4-H, I was able to start Brown's Busy Beekeepers at a local retirement home south of Abilene. I wanted to give people interested in beekeeping the opportunity to get their feet wet without them being responsible for the large startup costs beekeeping can have. Three families joined the first year and I was able to take the lessons learned from my mentors and teach them to others. At the end of the year, all three families purchased their own hives and are still beekeeping today. My mom took over managing the hives, and we still help other beekeepers whenever we can in the area. Every year, it is exciting for me to hear scholarship recipients give their yearly reports because it reminds me of where I started.



Rogan with his winning entries at the 2014 KS State fair; best frame of honey and best medium extracted honey.

This past May, I graduated from K-State with a degree in Agronomy and a minor in Entomology. In June, I began work on a master's degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. On my way through this journey, I had some very exciting internship opportunities that helped round out my beekeeping experiences. In the summer of 2018, I spent time with the United States Geological Survey working on a project that focused on how changing land use impacts colony health. This study used pollen traps to monitor what kind of pollen was being collected and when; thus, allowing beekeepers to know what flowers were most important in the area. The following summer I

returned to North Dakota, but this time to work for Browning's Honey Company as a member of one of their summer crews. Going from my own hobby production, where at most I had eight colonies at one time, to a company that has almost 30,000 colonies was quite an adjustment. It was also a tremendous learning experience as I got to see how honey was produced on a commercial scale. Requeening, making splits, adding supers, treating for mites, moving bees, pulling honey, and extraction were all vastly different processes than I had experienced before, but it gave me the opportunity to see what techniques were best for hobby beekeepers as compared to those working at a larger scale.



All of these beekeeping experiences have helped round me into the beekeeper that I am today. I have been fortunate enough to work as a hobby beekeeper, on research projects, and in the commercial bee industry. I believe this has led to a broader understanding of what works at various levels of beekeeping as I start my research career. This past summer, I began a project looking at reusing dead-out frames with contaminated food resources, like nectar and pollen, to rear queens in nucleus colonies. I hope to continue this project this field season in efforts to determine the impact of rearing queens in contaminated environments and what affects it may have on her laying ability. Additionally, I am starting another project that will investigate how contaminated resources impact honey bee aging and their cohort system. I am very excited to be able to share with others the potential colony impacts of contaminated pollen and nectar in their hives. In the near future, I hope to be able to speak to KHPA and NEKBA members

at a Fun Day event or conference on my experimental findings. Without them, and *Beekeeping for Dummies*, I might have never found my potential passion in life.



Rogan teaching at the UNL workshop.

### ASK QUINBY & REMI



**Dear Quinby and Remi:** I inspected one of my hives and found swarm cells. What should I do? **Quinby and Remi answer:** It depends on what else you see in that hive and how far along the queen cells are.

1. If you can still see eggs in the hive then you have a good chance of keeping them from swarming; however, you must immediately take drastic measures. Your first task is to find the queen. Once you have found her, set her aside, either on the frame you found her on or you could use Kristi Sanderson's new method to hold a queen by using a queen bee catcher clip. This just helps you to know where the queen is while you do your manipulations. To keep your hive from swarming, you must eliminate the crowding situation, drastically. You will need to remove most of the brood – like all

but a frame or two. Make splits, give the brood to friends, get them started in beekeeping either purchase some queens for the brood or use those queen cells. As Cecil says, a swarm queen cell is the best queen cell you can get! It was raised to replace a queen under optimal conditions by the bees.

2. You don't see eggs and you have sealed queen cells. 99% of the time, according to Dr. Chip Taylor, this means that the hive has swarmed already. Cecil and Joli, just throw up their hands and shake their heads and say—let it go. **Do not** cut out the queen cells or you will leave that hive hopelessly queen-less. They have tried everything- requeening, pulling brood - tried it all. Just put the hive back together and write on top to check back in two weeks. Usually, by that time you have a new laying queen and you can see eggs and young larvae—if you don't have eggs and larva by 3 weeks add a new queen that you have purchased.

**Dear Quinby and Remi: When should I add**

**supers? Quinby and Remi answer:** 1. If you started with a new package of bees on new foundation, then you'll want to wait until the 2<sup>nd</sup> hive body has all but the last two frames drawn out. Then, move those unfilled-out frames in a space and put the filled-out frames on the outer edge. Then, add your queen excluder and one super. 2. If you have an established hive and the bees have moved up into the 2<sup>nd</sup> hive body, and they are covering the majority of frames, then you can put on your queen excluder and add supers. If you are using new foundation, you only want to add one super at a time. You'll add your 2<sup>nd</sup> super when the first super is drawn out except for the two outside frames. Move them in one space and put the drawn-out frames on the outer edge- you do this because the bees will tunnel up and will ignore the undrawn frames. If you are using drawn foundation, then you can add more than one super at a time, but keep your eye on them, as you may have to manipulate your frames. Adding more drawn supers helps the bees evaporate the honey

better because they can spread the nectar out more. Also, studies show that using extra drawn supers stimulates the bees to produce more honey.

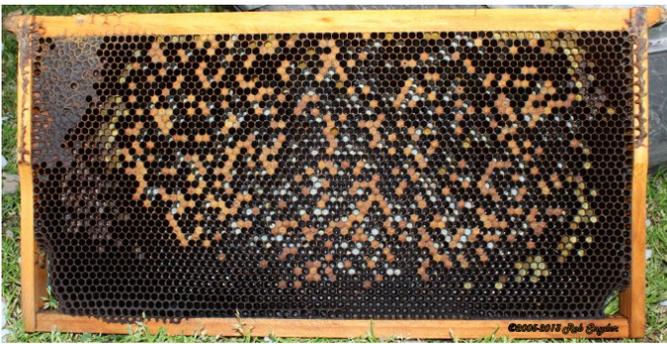
**Dear Quinby and Remi:** I have a spotty brood pattern but I can see that it is not my queen—she has eggs and larva back in the empty cells. I just don't understand what is going on. So weird.

**Remi and Quinby answer:** We usually blame everything on varroa but this is not varroa it is EFB, European Foulbrood. The following information is from the Bee Informed Partnership:

EFB is often found when nectar flows are sporadic or there is an insufficient number of nurse bees to attend brood. How does EFB spread? European Foulbrood bacteria (*Melissococcus plutonius*) is transmitted when it become mixed with the beebread, nectar, or diluted honey, and then fed to young larvae. The bacteria then replicate in the larvae mid-gut, killing the larvae within 4-5 days. This causes the larvae to die before being sealed, in most cases. When the larvae die, it is left in a "stomach-ache" position making it look contorted or twisted in the cell. If the larvae are fed a small amount of the bacteria, it may die while sealed or have a decreased lifespan. At this point, EFB looks similar to AFB with scattered sunken cells with perforations.



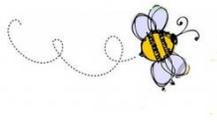
You may also see this if the larvae are fed copious amounts of food to prevent starvation. There are several secondary bacteria associated with EFB. This is often why the disease looks different in many cases depending on how severe the infection is. In hygienic colonies, an EFB infection can be mistaken for a failing queen or spotty brood pattern because the bees are removing infected larvae and pupa at a fast rate. This bacterium, like AFB, is very contagious and all equipment should be cleaned once an infection has been found. This bacterium can stay contagious for years but does not produce spores like AFB.



#### Treatments:

The only product labeled for control of EFB is Terramycin (Oxytetracycline hydrochloride). If the colony is infected, it is important to treat 3 times with Terramycin @ 5 to 7 days intervals. Re-queening may help by breaking the brood cycle. The shook swarm method and a good nectar flow will also clear up EFB. Now you need to get a VFD- a prescription from a veterinarian to get Terramycin from a bee supply dealer.

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



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

These new, free, virtual, Value-Added programs will be presented on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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 last month's Batik 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 4 programs:

Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> **Producing Comb Honey**, Kristi Sanderson, and Cecil Sweeney present

Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> **Pollen and Propolis- Collecting, Processing and Selling**, Petra Ahnert, Author of **Beeswax Alchemy** and **Beehive Alchemy**

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

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

### Plant it and They Will Come



As conscientious beekeepers, we work diligently to ensure that our bees have good quality nectar and pollen sources in close proximity to our hives. Sometimes this can be a difficult task to have good quality season-long forage for our bees. The key is to plan out your bloom cycles so that you have opportunities for bees to locate nice varieties of floral sources. As one, two or a group of flowers are spent; having another wave of blooms arriving is ideal. In our perennial gardens, I see borage, garden phlox, foxglove, blueberries, and lilac coming on strong. The Eastern Redbuds, apple trees, and Korean spice viburnum are finishing their bountiful blooms which the bees have enjoyed for the last couple of weeks. In the lawn and pasture, the dandelions and yellow rocket are turning the landscape into a patchwork of yellows.

In a short amount of time, we will see an explosion and a strong nectar flow with the black locust, Dutch clover, and field daisies. Our perennial gardens have an abundance of mints that will soon begin to bloom. Although considered invasive due to their ease of spreading, apple mint, chocolate mint, pineapple mint, catmint, peppermint, and spearmint are super easy to grow, fill in very well, and have a bounty of flowers for your bees. Be aware though that mints will work diligently to take over some of you more slow and low growing flowering perennials.

Having diversity in your perennial gardens will ensure that your bees will continue to fill those honey supers throughout the mid and late spring months. As we move into Summer, we will have a wider variety of pollinator-friendly plants to share

and discuss. Happy beekeeping and here's to an abundant honey crop and healthy bees.

**Chad Gilliland- Honey Plants Chairman**

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**NORTHEASTERN KS BEEKEEPERS' ASSOC. 2021 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](http://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 54<sup>th</sup> Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202 ph. 913-481-3504, [rburnshoney@gmail.com](mailto:rburnshoney@gmail.com)

**You may join, re-new, register, donate and pay online at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org)**

**NEKBA Funday June 5, 2021**

After a one-year hiatus, Funday is back! This year is virtual. As in the past, we will have knowledgeable and engaging speakers that will cover a wide range of topics for beekeepers of all skill levels. Registration is just \$25. All but one presentation will be recorded for later viewing. Those that have registered will have access to the recordings so that they may watch, or watch again, at their convenience.

In past years, besides meeting and talking to fellow beekeepers, one of the fun aspects of Funday was the silent auction. This year we will be having an online auction where some unique, some practical, and some inspiring items will be available. Auction proceeds will go towards NEKBA's educational programs. Viewing and bidding will be available from Tuesday, June 1, 9 AM, through Sunday, June 6, at 7 PM.

We are accepting donated items, for the auction, through May 30. If you have something you would like to donate, please go to: <https://www.biddingowl.com/NortheasternKansasBeekeep> You will find instructions and a form to complete concerning your auction item. Keep in mind that you will be responsible for making transfer arrangements with the highest bidder. Some items that I would consider priceless, but easy to transfer, would be a onetime mentoring service, a beginning beekeeping book you found helpful, a beekeeping supplier gift card, or an offer to help pull honey supers (there are a lot of older and female club members that would jump at this!). For questions or comments about the auction, contact Joli Winer, (913) 593-3562 or [joli@heartlandhoney.com](mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com)

Included in this newsletter is a list of our speakers and their biographies, registration form and the Funday schedule. You won't want to miss this great opportunity!

Jo Patrick, Funday Coordinator, (913) 645-8947 or [jo@brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jo@brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net)



L-R: Jennifer Tsuruda, Jim Tew, Elina Niño, Judy Wu-Smart



Beth Conrey

Autumn Smart

**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. At the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, she teaches bee management and increased awareness of the importance of pollinators. Dr. Tsuruda has an amazing talent for taking fascinating photos and videos of honey bees, which she shares with her audience.

**Dr. Jim Tew:** Many know Jim Tew by his monthly column in *Bee Culture* magazine and by reading his book *Wisdom for Beekeepers*. During his decades of beekeeping, he has seen it all and tried most of it. Jim, along with Kim Flottum, have created a podcast that can be heard at <http://www.honeybeeobscura.com> To read more from Jim, visit [www.onetew.com](http://www.onetew.com).

**Dr. Elina Niño:** Dr. Niño is the California State Extension Apiculturist. She established the California Master Beekeeper Program in 2016. Ms. Niño operates the E.L. Niño Bee Lab at the University of California Davis and is also the facilities director of the Haagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven. Dr. Niño's research interests include understanding reproductive processes involved in queen bee mating to developing and evaluating new control methods to combat Varroa mites. An article about Dr. Niño and her work at U.C. Davis can be read at <https://www.beeculture.com/elina-nino/>

**Dr. Judy Wu-Smart:** Judy 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 her powerful presentations at past Fundays and are fortunate that she is returning.

**Beth Conrey:** Beth is the owner and operator of Bee Squared Apiaries, Berthoud, Colorado. She is a former president of the Colorado State Beekeepers Association. During her tenure as president, Beth recruited and organized area bee clubs across Colorado into a robust organization of successful beekeepers. She also helped found the People and Pollinators Network and serves on the board of directors of the Pollinator Stewardship Council. 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. Beth was featured in the December 2020 issue of *Bee Culture* magazine, page 68. To read the article visit <https://www.beeculture.com/category/2020/dec-2020/> Click on access the web edition. You will be able to view a virtual copy of the magazine.

**Dr. Autumn Smart:** Dr. Smart is a research assistant professor in the Entomology department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her research examines the impacts of external colony stressors on the health, productivity and survival of honey bees and colonies. She also teaches insect ecology and beekeeping at UNL.

**Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association Funday June 5, 2021**

**Beekeeping with 20/21 Vision**

***(Note: Time of presentations and topics may change)***

- 8:00-8:15 **Room A:** Opening Remarks, President Ed Darlington And Jo Patrick, Funday Chair
- 8:15-9:05 **Room A:** General Session-Keynote- Responsible Beekeeping-How to Survive and Thrive, Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda presents (Not Recorded)
- 9:15-10:05 **Room A:** There's Plenty of Money in Honey- Beth Conrey Presents (Recorded)  
**Room B:** Finding and Marking Queens- Kristi Sanderson Presents (Recorded)
- 10:15-11:05 **Room A:** Beginning Beekeeping 101- At the Hives- What are you seeing, Identifying in hive basics, Dr. Judy Wu-Smart presents (Recorded)  
**Room B:** Mead Made Easy - Jeff Shouse presents (Recorded)
- 11:15-11:30 **Room A:** What Do You Know? Live-Online Beekeeping Quiz  
**Room B:** Diagnose the Problem in Your Hive - Nikki Bowman Presents (Recorded)
- 11:30-12:00 **Lunch – Remember to check out the online auction**
- 12:00-12:50 **Room A:** The Seasonal Orbit of the Honey Bee Society-Dr. Jim Tew Presents (Recorded)  
**Room B:** Cold Process Soapmaking - Gentle Geranium, Honey and Oatmeal Soap and Making a Fabulous Face Cream-Joanna Will Presents (Recorded)
- 1:00-1:50 **Room A:** Varroa, Dr. Elina L. Niño Presents (Recorded)  
**Room B:** To Be announced
- 2:00-2:50 **Room A:** Honey Bee Biology-Dr. Autumn Smart Presents (Recorded)  
**Room B:** Observation Hives-Henry Long Presents (Recorded)
- 3:00-3:50 **Room A:** At the Hives- Spring Management- Evaluating Hives and Taking Action- Dr. Judy Wu-Smart Presents (Recorded)  
**Room B:** Extracting Your Honey- SAVE Golden Prairie Honey Presents (Recorded)
- 4:00-4:50 **Room A:** Queen Problems, Some Discussion, Solutions and Best Guesses-Dr. Jim Tew Presents (Recorded)  
**Room B:** Gardening with Native Plants for Pollinators-Patty Ragsdale Presents, Happy Apple's Farm, Tonganoxie (Recorded)
- 4:50-5:00 **Room A:** Closing Remarks – Ed Darlington and Jo Patrick

*Please remain online to complete a brief survey and to enter your name into a drawing for a door prize. Winners will be contacted by email.*

# NEKBA Bee Funday 2021 Registration Form

June 5, 2021 A virtual event using Zoom

The cost per email address is \$25.00.

You can register online at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org). Your contact information will be provided to the club through PayPal or you may send this form with payment to NEKBA Treasurer-Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address  
(required) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and  
Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a member of NEKBA      \_\_\_\_\_ I am not a member of NEKBA

I would like to be a member- ½ year membership \$7.50, includes club monthly newsletter *The Buzzer* (not required) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family members wanting membership with voting rights \$1.00 per family member \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family member names \_\_\_\_\_

As a member I would like to receive my monthly Buzzer newsletter via email (saving postage costs) \_\_\_\_\_

As a member I would like to receive my Buzzer newsletter via USPS \_\_\_\_\_

Cost per email address \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contact Jo Patrick (913) 645-8947 for additional information or questions.

## About the Event:

The name " Bee FunDay" came about in the early 1990's from hosting these small early summer bee events at a local farm. Members of the association got together for the event to have fun, and expand their learning from just a monthly meeting. The event has grown in numbers over the years. This very 1st Funday event was held on a Sunday, June 5th, 1994, at the grounds of the [Agricultural Hall of Fame](#) in Bonner Spring, KS. The next was held at the home of Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney. We've been holding this event every year since the beginning.

## MENTORING-SWEET PRAIRIE HONEY

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

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## FISHER'S BEE SUPPLIES

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

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## THE HAWLEY HONEY COMPANY

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

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## JORDY'S HONEY

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

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## COTTIN'S HARDWARE & RENTAL

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

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

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

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## Next to Nature Farm

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

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

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

## Address Service Requested

**Meeting via Zoom**  
**Monday, May 17, 2021**

### ***The Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association***

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

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

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

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

#### **2021 Officers**

President: <b>Ed Darlington</b> , 2804 E 174th St., Belton, MO 64012	<a href="mailto:edarlington49@gmail.com">edarlington49@gmail.com</a>	816-331-4934
1st VP (Program Chair): <b>Kristi Sanderson</b> , 1252 E Frontier Ln, Olathe, KS 66062	<a href="mailto:sandersonk09@gmail.com">sandersonk09@gmail.com</a>	913-768-4961
2nd VP (Librarian): <b>Cecil Sweeney</b> , 19201 S Clare Rd, Spring Hill, KS 66083	<a href="mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com">joli@heartlandhoney.com</a>	913-593-3851
3rd VP (Honey Plants): <b>Chad Gilliland</b> , 23338 Kissinger Rd, Leavenworth, KS 66028	<a href="mailto:nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com">nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com</a>	785-491-1978
Secretary: <b>Janet Campbell</b> , 2880 SW Plass Ave., Topeka, KS 66611	<a href="mailto:jensnana@rocketmail.com">jensnana@rocketmail.com</a>	785-266-2763
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 us on-line at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org). Save time. Join, re-new, or register.