



# CAPPINGS

## The Official Newsletter of the Kansas Honey Producers Association

[www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)

Promoting Mankind's Most Beneficial Insect - The Honey Bee!

### Special points of interest:

- Legislative Update
- President's Corner
- Regional News
- Spring Conference

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### The Legislative Update 2025 by Buck Bradley

The first-ever *Bees Under the Dome* event, on February 5, was a tremendous success! Our goal was to raise awareness among the public and Capitol employees about state beekeeping associations and the resources available to help them understand the impact of potential legislation on native pollinators and honey bees.

We had a fantastic time interacting with both the public and legislators. The 8–10 volunteers who helped at the booth were amazed by the overwhelming support from attendees, including numerous legislators and their staff. Many individuals expressed interest in signing up for beginner beekeeping courses in their local areas.

Given this year's success, *Bees Under the Dome* will become an annual event! We are

already planning for next year's event on Thursday, January 29, 2026—Kansas Day, a fitting date since the honey bee is the state insect of Kansas. We encourage you to join us, even better, encourage your local beekeeping association to join us at the Capitol next year. It's a great opportunity to share knowledge, advocate for beekeeping, and enjoy a beautiful day at the Capitol!

For those who may not be aware, HB2158 was introduced on January 29. This bill would remove the requirement of needing a commercial kitchen license to sell honey in a retail setting if specific conditions are met.

On February 5th, I delivered honey bottles to every legislator to raise awareness about HB2158. While I wasn't

able to speak with all 165 legislators, those I did connect with—across party lines—were very supportive of the bill.

Coincidentally, the hearing for HB2158 took place on the same day in the House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development. We had 10–15 supporters in attendance, with three speaking in favor of the bill, including KHPA President Becky Tipton, and one individual opposing it. Several others submitted written testimony to the committee. The overall tone of the hearing was very positive. Representatives asked great questions about beekeeping and honey. While most representatives appeared to strongly support the bill, one raised concern about the \$50,000 gross sales threshold being

too high, while another asked if a threshold was even needed.

In the coming weeks, the Committee may vote on the bill or make modifications which could require another hearing. If a vote is taken, a simple majority is needed to advance the bill to the House floor. From there, it would need to pass before moving to the Senate and, ultimately, to the Governor's desk for approval.

Please continue to engage with your representatives and express your support for HB2158. I will keep you updated as the process moves forward!

**Links & Resources:**

Link to the bill: [https://kslegislature.gov/li/b2025\\_26/measures/hb2158/](https://kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/measures/hb2158/)

Link to a recording of the hearing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gx4jb9h505g>

Submitted testimony (some but not all written testimonies have been uploaded): [https://kslegislature.gov/li/b2025\\_26/committees/ctte\\_h\\_cmrcelbr\\_1/committee\\_testimony/?selected\\_date=02%2F05%2F2025](https://kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/committees/ctte_h_cmrcelbr_1/committee_testimony/?selected_date=02%2F05%2F2025)



The Kansas State Fair is September 5-14, 2025. Mark your calendars! I look forward to another great year. Join the fun and sign up to volunteer.



Sterling Nehepor was recognized for outstanding help at the fair.



Zach Cooper received the 2024 KS State Fair Sweepstakes award.

## KHPA OFFICERS

### President

Becky Tipton 785-484-3710  
bstbees@gmail.com

### 1st Vice President

Greg Swob 785-639-7766  
gswob@mwenergy.com

### 2nd Vice President

Kristi Sanderson 913-768-4961  
sandersonk09@gmail.com

### 3rd Vice President

Julie Cahoj 785-626-3697  
jcahoj@gmail.com

### Secretary

Jade Like 620-290-3139  
4and30farms@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Sondra Koehn 972-849-4408  
skoehn@live.com

### Northeast Region

Jo Patrick 913-645-8947  
brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net

### North Central Region

Nikki Bowman 785-477-0836  
nikkibfarm@gmail.com

### Southeast Region

Rhonda Heston 515-724-2124  
R.heston.rh@gmail.com

### South Central Region

Zach Cooper 719-349-0530  
Zach.cooper@cowley.edu

### West Region

Brenda Mazanec 785-462-2098  
Brenda@movementconnection.net

### Editor

Cheryl Burkhead 785-224-9077  
cherylhboney@gmail.com



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Becky Tipton

We live in challenging times. It may feel like a curse to face such challenges, but every day is a chance for each of us to do something beneficial and positive. We can all make a difference in our tiny corner of the world by providing care and protection for our pollinators.

Dr. Judy Wu-Smart, UNL, spent part of this past month with a group of agricultural scientists, acting as a response team, investigating an extremely high number of bee colony deaths. The numbers are sporadic; high deaths in one area, near normal deaths in others. Highly suspicious and related to the colony losses is the application of a new pesticide for treatment of aphids on alfalfa. I only have the sketchiest of information—we will have to wait for the team to release their findings and recommendations, but this is something to consider if your bees are near alfalfa fields.

How can you combat such depressing news? Knowledge. This is an unabashed advertisement for our Spring KHPA meeting in Salina. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda of Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville. If you have never met Dr. Tsuruda, let me do a brief introduction. She is energetic, extremely knowledgeable, categorically practical, and fun to listen to. She peppers scientific experiments with her own personal revelations and “ah ha” moments. Here is a link to a YouTube video that will introduce her to you. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWt4fRkfJAg> Dr. Tsuruda is UTK's extension specialist in both plant pathology and apiculture. She's published 35 articles and has over 1,000 citations from her fellow colleagues. Most of her work focuses on the importance of pollinators and how to support them in your own environment. She also has some fascinating research on what honey bees do during a solar eclipse (we might not experience another total solar eclipse in N. America until 2044). But inquiring minds want to know. Much of the research at UTK is on breeding honey bees for resistance to Varroa mites. Some of you might remember Dr. Tsuruda from NEKBA's Funday '24. I am extremely pleased that she could find time in her schedule to return to Kansas. She is a treasure!

We have many talented and experienced beekeepers presenting at this meeting and I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to learn, network, connect and share.

Last thoughts. With the increased interest in beekeeping, we have also seen an increase in fraudulent behavior; people offering bees, packages, nucs, colonies, equipment for sale and scamming unsuspecting (usually new) beekeepers. Rule #1. Beekeeping is an expensive hobby (not like owning a bass boat, race horse, or avid golfing, but still not cheap). Yet some folks, looking for a cheap work-around, get pulled into too-good-to-be-true deals. No matter what you are buying, GET REFERENCES FROM A REAL PERSON (preferably someone you actually know). Do not accept references posted on social media—those can be just as fake as the deal they offered. Rule #2. Do not buy package bees or nuc colonies and have them shipped through the mail or common carrier. Shippers do not like bees and will not treat them with the loving care they deserve. No matter where you live, it is worth the road trip to pick up your bees from the

person who made the nuc/package OR from a real bee broker. A bee broker is someone who has specialized knowledge about handling bees and will have taken measures to keep them from overheating or suffocating and will keep them hydrated during travel. Even if you want to buy from a national supplier, this rule applies to all the big guys, too (Mann Lake, Dadant, etc.). Don't have your bees shipped. (FYI, queens are frequently shipped and steps can be taken to assure their good handling.) Who should you ask for references? Ask an officer at your local club. Message an officer from the region in which you live. Do not assume anyone is reputable because you have seen them posting on social media. Although we watch social media closely, if a contributor didn't post something truly detrimental, it may not be deleted. Check out club websites. Many local clubs keep lists of reputable people offering bees for sale. Visit our beautiful KHPA website and register for the March meeting. There is a lot of beneficial information on the site, too. Hope to see you all in March. It will be a great meeting!

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## News from Northeast Kansas

Over 20 beekeepers from the NE Region attended the North American Honey Bee Expo in Louisville, Ky., right after the first of the year. A storm resulting in record snowfalls swept a large portion of the United States. Attendees had a decision to make. Should they leave earlier than planned or stay a few extra days? Many chose to wait patiently for the storm to pass in Louisville. A few others quickly went home to avoid being stuck en route. A few of the attendees were caught in the storm and had to "white knuckle" it for the final few hours of the drive home.

Under the leadership of Kristi Sanderson, Special Events Coordinator for classes, the Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association is starting 2025 with a series of classes for beginning beekeepers and others for more experienced beekeepers. Approximately 40 beekeepers were in attendance for a Year 2 and Beyond class on January 18<sup>th</sup>. The class was held at the K-State Extension office in Olathe, KS. Three Beginning Beekeeping classes are scheduled. The agenda for the beginning classes will be repeated in three different locations to provide accessibility around the region. The first will be on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, Flory Building, 2110 Harper St., Lawrence, KS. 66046. The second will be held on Saturday, March 1, at the Wyandotte County Extension Office, 1216 N 79th Street, Kansas City, KS. 66112. The third session will be March 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Johnson County Extension office, 11811 S. Sunset Dr., Olathe, KS. 66061. Additional information and registration can be found at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org).

The NEKBA Open Apiary, located at Pendleton's Country Market, 1440 E. 1850 Rd., Lawrence, KS 66046, will be available in 2025 to anyone seeking hands-on experience and mentorship. The apiary currently has eight hives. Plans are to host open apiary sessions on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month prior to NEKBA meetings, and one or two Saturdays per month. This apiary will be starting its third year. Last year, the number of colonies increased to 10 and the addition of a shed to house equipment was added at the location. Going into the fall, two colonies were combined with stronger colonies, bringing the number of colonies down to eight. Look for scheduling information on NEKBA's Facebook page and at [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org). You may also call or text Joli Winer at 913-593-3562 or email [heartlandhoneyks@gmail.com](mailto:heartlandhoneyks@gmail.com). During these sessions, they will go through hives looking for all stages of brood, check food stores, feed if necessary, and do varroa mite checks. In April they plan to

make some nucs and requeen some hives. They have extra bee suits, smokers, and hive tools available. Please note that hives can only be accessed with a NEKBA member.

In February, Steve and Becky Tipton will resume their classes at the Shawnee North Community Center, 300 NE 43rd St, Topeka, KS 66617. There will be 9 free sessions over the year covering the basics of beekeeping. Steve and Becky will open their teaching apiary in April. For more information contact Becky at 1 (785) 554-1591.

Jo Patrick, Northeastern Region Representative

## North Central Region News

Hello Bee Friends!

The North Central area received around 15" of snow or more in many areas, so we're hoping for abundant blooms this Spring. Despite temperatures below -10 degrees some nights, the bees are still doing their thing, eating through their food stores at a faster rate, and enjoying some cleansing flights when the temperature has finally been above freezing on calm, sunny days.

In addition to the two KHPA meetings in Salina this year, the North Central area beekeepers will meet at Rolling Hills Zoo west of Salina at 2 pm on the following Sundays: May 18, July 13, and September 14. The gatherings are free and all are welcome to join us to talk bees and inspect hives together.

I'll also have Open Apiary opportunities in the Manhattan area this year, dates to be announced.

Nikki Bowman, North Central Region Representative

## South Central Region News

After a long Summer with little to no rain in the area, the South-Central Region (as well as the state) were hit with a couple big snow storms. Though some areas were without power and traveling to work may have been a bit interesting at times, we are thankful for the moisture that we received. Hopefully this spring will bring additional moisture to aid in a great bloom for the bees.

The clubs in the area are resuming their meetings and bees are being ordered. Keep in mind to use caution when ordering bees online. In today's world, there are too many scams going on. Rule of thumb, do not order bees from someone unless you can find reliable references of the person and the bees that they are producing. Better to be safe than sorry.

In other news with the aid of a grant, I was able to travel to the ABF Conference this year to attend Dr. Judy Wu Smart's Advocacy and Policy Training. While there, I was able to interact with beekeepers from across the country as well as those from Canada and Australia. I also learned about the latest research and issues. A very impactful conference with so much to take away. Next year, the conference will be in Mobile Alabama, and I would recommend that you consider attending. They have presentations for hobby beekeepers managing only a few hives to commercial operators with thousands and everyone in between. You never know what you might learn.

Wichita Beekeeper Alliance will have the following presentations, demonstrations, and topics

over the next few months:

March 8<sup>th</sup> - Listening to Your Bees, when to Lead and when to Follow, and Swarm Prevention

April 12<sup>th</sup> - Inspection Basics and Ways to Split Hives

May 10<sup>th</sup> - Horizontal Hive Basics and In-Hive Splits.

South Central Kansas Beekeepers Association:

February meeting- Transitioning from Winter to Spring, Building up Colonies

March meeting- Setting up Swarm Traps

Zach Cooper, South Central Region Representative

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## News from Western Kansas

### Lessons From the Hives

The intricacies and characteristics of the b's, again, have curled my lips into a smile as I associate life lessons with happenings in the hives. Dr. David Peck, of Better Bee, presented, "Collective Intelligence & Honeybee Dance Language" at the November KHPA meeting. Listening intently, I couldn't help but chuckle. Honeybee Dance Language sounds a LOT like MARKETING on social media.

Always looking for new and creative means of marketing for my wellness facility in downtown Colby, the light bulbs began flashing. Once home, I grabbed my trusty Honey Bee Biology book and flipped to chapter 7, Dance Language Communication. When a forager or scout bee discovers a new food source, she loads up with nectar and pollen, and flies back to her hive. There she repeats specialized patterns of movement, dancing. She may stop and share some of the contents she has collected and then repeat the dance in a different place. She does this all in an effort to recruit other bees to join her. The round dance and the wagtail dance are two basic recruitment behaviors that indicate \*distance of food source \* direction to food source \*smell and taste \* profitability of food source (as indicated by dance vigor).

My wellness facility is a vibrant resource! It's located centrally in the historic downtown district! Clients, full of health and vitality, recruit and return with others to experience the same resource. Reduced price wellness services encourage clients to sample the rich resources. Social media posts show the vibrancy of the resource! "Followers" - "like and share" social media posts increasing the vigor of the dance. From the b's I've learned I need to promote the wellness facility as a vibrant rich resource and keep dancing, with vigor, to maintain the buzz!

Breathe and just BEE

Brenda Mazanec, Western Region Representative

## Scholarship News—2024 KHPA Recipients

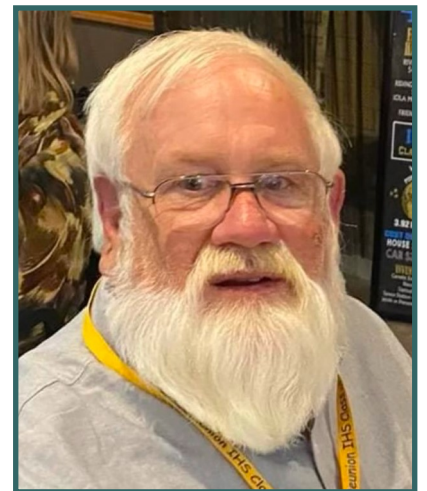
Altoona-Midway Middle/High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) and Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) are working together to support our beehive initiative. Future Farmers of America is a national organization that aims to prepare students for leadership roles in agriculture, providing them with skills in farming, business, and technology. FFA promotes personal growth, community service, and career development through various educational programs and competitions. It encourages young people to explore careers in agriculture, fostering a passion for the industry and its future. Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a nonprofit organization that empowers young people to become leaders in their families, careers, and communities. It focuses on personal growth, leadership development, and community service through various programs and activities. FCCLA provides members with opportunities to enhance their skills in areas like family dynamics, career preparation, and community involvement.



Left to Right: Klaira Barlow (District Junior High FCCLA Representative & FFA Member), Brooklynn Collins (Vice President of FCCLA STAR events & FFA Member), Blake Nalley (FCCLA Vice President), Peyton Drake (FCCLA President & FFA member), Damian Hicks (FFA member), Eryn Tiger (FFA President).

Ron Smail is the owner/operator of Deer Creek Honey Farm. He has a beekeeping operation in Southeast Kansas where he manages and oversees 150 production hives with an additional 24 support hives. He sells nucs and queens in the spring. He also offers honey and comb honey sold directly to the consumer.

Ron's passion for beekeeping began in the 1980's, however, it wasn't until his retirement that he was truly able to devote the time and energy to cultivate this passion. He is actively involved with the Heartland Beekeepers of Southeast Kansas which is an organization out of Pittsburg. Ron is often asked to share his knowledge of the subject with other beekeepers and clubs throughout the state. He spends much of his time mentoring new beekeepers.



## 2024 KHPA Scholarship Recipients

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Derby, KS /Stepheni Phillips, Hutchinson, mentor



We are a small Episcopal church in Derby, KS. We are blessed with 5 acres of land in the middle of our suburban town and our goal is to utilize the land to the betterment of those in our community. We will be starting a community garden for anyone to join but will specifically offer plots to an inner-city organization based in Wichita that helps those with severe mental illness. Gardening and being outdoors has immense benefits for people's physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing

and we will be teaching them how to grow and prepare their own food. The bees will be an integral part of this process as we will be able to show the relationship pollinators have with food production. Our parish is also the meeting location for a local Girl Scout troop and a 4-H club. We will partner with them on beekeeping education.

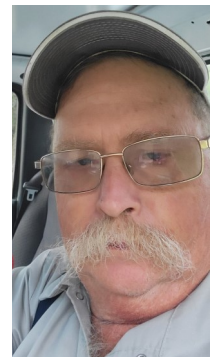


Stepheni Phillips was born and raised in Illinois. Beekeeping had interested her but she didn't start beekeeping until she moved to Kansas. Stepheni and her husband, Kory, live in Hutchinson and own a farm just north of Nickerson, KS where they keep some of their bees. She began mentoring last year and really enjoy helping other beekeepers learn more about bees and how to take care of them. Stepheni says she's looking forward to working with the group at St. Andrews!



Members of the Leib-4-H club, 2023 KHPA Scholarship recipients, giving a wrap up of their year at the Fall KHPA meeting. Club leader, Tracy Maxson, purchased a FLIR infrared camera and observed the hives from the outside. The club members could observe the cluster up in the middle of the top. Tracy has a never-ending interest in technology. He recently received an endoscope camera they will use to inspect the inside of the hive. They welcome their new mentor, Jim Raven.

Jim has been a beekeeper for six years. He currently serves as president for the Cherokee County Area Beekeepers. Jim has consistently managed 10 hives and will increase to 16 this year. Jim is always anxious to learn more about beekeeping. He is always willing to pass on his knowledge to others and plans to be a master beekeeper in the near future.







Congratulations to Chetopa FFA Chapter, Chetopa, KS upon the successful completion of the two-year KHPA Scholarship Grant.

Pictured: Freshman- Braydon Heady, FFA Sponsor- Jim Knave, and Scholarship Chairperson- Julie Cahoj

## Spring 2025 KHPA Conference

Spring 2025 KHPA Conference is upon us. That time of year has sneaked up on us once again – Our conference is in Salina – March 6, 7 and 8th! We will be at the Courtyard by Marriott, 3020 Riffel Dr., Salina, KS. It is where we've met the last few years. On March 6 at 8:00 PM, you are welcome to attend the Executive Committee meeting in the main room.

General sessions are on Friday and Saturday as the agenda shows in this issue of the Cappings . Please remember we may have last moment changes in timelines and speakers, as 'things do happen'. I had an incredible time in November with all of you and I'm sure everyone who attended felt the same way. We are a generous group, with both our time and personal money. We are fun and this year will be more of the same. Jim Raders with Dadant will be attending with items that we need to make working our hives easier, books, etc.

Jennifer Tsuruda PhD will be our headline speaker. She is a very knowledgeable and extremely energetic speaker as you may recall from her visit in 2019. We have not had much in the way of hands-on presentations lately and if you're missing those sessions... you will be quite pleased! Our own Brian Withrow will show us his secrets on producing Creamed Honey. Tracy Tucker MD will talk about her favorite part of beekeeping – working with wax and producing lotions, creams, and potions with products of the hive. Tax time is upon us and our favorite agricultural tax expert, Mark Wood, is back by popular demand to help us decide how to treat our hobby-business bookkeeping, equipment depreciation, etc. I asked, and he will NOT be showing us how to keep two sets of books. Honesty is the best policy, but he will have some tips and suggestions that we will all benefit from. The agenda and on-line sign-up will be on our website for a smooth registration process. You can also opt to mail in a check to Sondra Koehn with a paper registration. Hotel rooms are blocked at a reduced rate until Feb. 20th and a hotel registration link will also be on our website. Bring your donation items for the Silent Auctions and be ready to meet with your bee friends once again. Bring a friend and share the generosity of your state association with them.

Next Fall, mark your calendars for November 6, 7, and 8. The Fall '25 lineup is beginning to look very interesting. Thank you!

Greg Swob, 1st Vice President

***Kansas Honey Producers Association Spring 2025 Conference  
Courtyard by Marriott – 3020 Riffle Dr. – Salina, KS March 6 – 8, 2025  
Call 785-309-1300 to reserve your rooms (mention KHPA)***

**Speakers and timeline subject to change**

**Thursday March 6 at 8:00 PM – Executive Committee Meeting (all welcome)**

**Friday March 7<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 – 9:00 AM – Set up and bring your items for Silent Auction fund raiser

9:00- 9:15 – Welcome and Announcements – Becky Tipton, KHPA President

**9:15 – 10:00 – Responsible Beekeeping - Jennifer Tsuruda PhD-**

10:00 – 10:20 – Break

**10:20 – 11:05 – ‘Creamed Honey’ – Brian Withrow**

11:05 – 11:20 – Break – Visit Vendors

**11:20 – 12:05 – Peter Fowler PhD Michigan State Univ. – ZOOM European Foulbrood**

**11:20 – 12:05 – Breakout for Scholarship Groups, New Beekeepers in Lobby – Julie Cahoj**

12:05 – 1:30 – Lunch – visit with the Vendors – bid on Silent Auction Items – Network

**1:30 – 2:15 – Brian McCormack PhD, KSU Entomology – tba**

2:15 – 2:35 – Break - Silent Auction ends at 3:35

**2:35 – 3:35 – Queen Rearing: Tips, Tricks and what is needed to start – Jennifer Tsuruda PhD**

**3:35 – 3:50 - Steve Fowler – Vaporizer for Mite Treatment**

**3:50 - ? Area Regions gather, Network, discuss issues**

**6:00 – Banquet and Dinner**

**Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 – 9:00 – Set up and bring Silent Auction items

9:00 – 9:15 - Welcome and Announcements – Becky Tipton, KHPA President

**9:15 – 10:00 – Integrated Pest (Varroa) Management – Jennifer Tsuruda PhD**

10:00 – 10:20 – Break – visit vendors, bid on silent auction items

**10:20 – 11:05 – Lotions and Potions using Beeswax - Tracy Tucker MD**

11:05 – 11:25 Break – visit Vendors Note: Jim Raders with Dadant will leave after lunch

**11:25 – 12:15 – KHPA Business Meeting**

12:15 – 1:30 – Lunch

**1:30 – 2:15 – Taxes and Record Keeping – Mark Wood- KS Farm Management Economist**

**1:30 – 2:15 - Breakout for Scholarship Groups, New Beekeepers in Lobby – Julie Cahoj**

2:15 – 2:35 – Break – bid on silent auction items

**2:35 – 3:20 – Preparing beeswax for skincare products – Tracy Tucker MD**

**3:20 - ? - Open Panel Questions & Answers with experienced beekeepers**

**Registration for Spring 2025 KHPA Conference**

**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Enter # of Attendees 18 and older:**

**Friday Only - Lunch and Banquet Dinner** \_\_\_\_\_ X **\$45.00** = \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday Only - includes Lunch:** \_\_\_\_\_ X **\$30.00** = \_\_\_\_\_

**Both Days - Lunches and Banquet Dinner included:**

\_\_\_\_\_ X **\$75.00** = \_\_\_\_\_

**KHPA Annual Dues: \$25.00/family:** \_\_\_\_\_ X **\$25.00** = \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: **Renewal:** \_\_\_\_\_ **New Membership:** \_\_\_\_\_

Check if mail only to address above: \_\_\_\_\_

\* The newsletter will be via email unless otherwise specified. \*

**Grant Program Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You!** **Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: KHPA – Attn. Sondra Koehn – PO Box 171 – Galva, KS 67443**

**Or you may register online at: [www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)**

**Kansas Honey Producer's Association**  
**The Cappings**  
**S. Koehn**  
**P.O. Box 171**  
**Galva, KS 67443**

**Address Service Requested**

**2025 Kansas Honey Producer's Association Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_



Membership Kansas Honey Producer's Association per year (Jan.-Dec.) \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional family members wanting voting rights \$1.00 per person \$1.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional family member's names: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Membership (18 years of age or under) \$12.50 \_\_\_\_\_  
Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Due \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: KHPA or Kansas Honey Producer's Association or pay online at [www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)**

**Mail to: Sondra Koehn, P.O. Box 171, Galva, Kansas 67443 Phone# 972-849-4408 or email- [skoehn@live.com](mailto:skoehn@live.com)**  
The Kansas Honey Producer's Association is a non-profit IRC 501(c)5 agricultural-educational organization, run by dedicated volunteers, and supported primarily by membership dues (subscriptions). The IRC status means that the association is a tax-exempt organization. While donations are always welcome, they are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution. However, membership dues and subscriptions may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.