

CAPPINGS

The Official Newsletter of the
Kansas Honey Producers Association
www.KansasHoneyProducers.org



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

June 2015

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MITES!!

Hop-Guard II Section 18 Approved for Kansas!

For Kansas beekeepers interested in using **HopGuard II** for varroa mite control, the 2015 Section 18 was approved effective April 13, 2015 through December 31, 2015. The active ingredient in **HopGuard II** is 16% potassium salt of hop beta acids, which offers an alternate chemistry against varroa mites and is considered to be a more natural or 'softer' chemistry.

The use directions for **HopGuard II** in the colony is at a rate of one strip per five deep frames covered with bees in each brood chamber. Strips must be opened and hung over the frame, two strips per ten frame super. There is a maximum of three applications per year per super (i.e. six strips per year super) is allowed. Application should occur based on varroa mite levels in the colony. For optimal results, little to no brood should be present in the colony.

Inspections

The Kansas Department of Agriculture needs beekeepers, who are current users of **HopGuard II**, to volunteer for required Section 18 inspections. If you use **HopGuard II** and would allow KDA to come inspect **HopGuard II** use in your hive(s), please contact Judy Glass, judyglass@kda.ks.gov. Judy will need your name and contact information to follow-up. These inspections should not take longer than an hour to complete (probably less), but are required data for EPA in order for Kansas to continue to apply for Sec-

tion 18 status. All volunteers may not be inspected.

Contact Sharon Dobesh (sdobesh@ksu.edu or 785-532-1340) if you have any questions regarding the section 18 approval, need a copy of the HopGuard II label, or the KDA inspections.

Oxalic Acid

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has approved the use of oxalic acid for use in honey bee colonies. According to information in the registration decision, "Due to the significant problems this parasite poses for honey bees, the EPA review of the application was conducted under a greatly expedited process." There is nothing new about oxalic acid for Varroa control. It is currently registered and widely used in Europe and Canada, and many U.S. beekeepers have been using it for years. Oxalic acid is readily available from hardware and paint stores where it is sold as "wood bleach."

However, with the new regulation, its use will be legal and it will be labeled for use on colonies. The proposed label allows for this chemical to be administered in syrup, as a vapor, or as a spray. Oxalic acid does not kill Varroa within capped cells and may, in fact, harm open larvae. As a result, oxalic acid treatments are most effective when brood rearing is at a low point. As with all miticides, the use of oxalic acid should be alternated with other preparations to reduce the chance of resistance.

KHPA memberships can now be renewed online!!!

www.kansashoneyproducers.org

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President's Corner

By: Steve Tipton

Isn't it amazing how good our girls are at predicting weather? A couple days ago I was in the bee yard transferring nucs to 10 frame equipment when I noticed bees returning to the hive in what appeared to be a swarm in reverse. The amount of field force from a single hive was astounding and even more because I was in the midst of several hives. In just a few minutes, it was pouring rain! The bees are more accurate than the Weather Channel!

At a recent NEKBA meeting, I gave a report on small hive beetle using information from Michael Hood's article, "Handbook of Small Hive Beetle IPM," published by Clemson University Extension. This is the most comprehensive and understandable publication I've seen on SHB—biology, life cycle, and IPM controls to keep beetles in check. Hood's research indicates that the beetle must have moist earth for the larvae to pupate. This explains why the southeastern states have had more problems with the pest than our southwestern areas! It should also alert us that we may have higher numbers of SHB because of our recent wet weather. This is a secondary predator, so keeping a good bee to comb ration is ultimately important. Bees can manage the beetle, they just need us to be better beekeepers to help them. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this free download. It's well worth the time to read and add to your beekeeping library. http://www.extension.org/pages/63188/handbook-of-small-hive-beetle-ipm#.VU_ZZi5Viko

Beekeepers are always looking for tools to make jobs easier. Our Treasurer, Robert Burns, showed me a pole he used to catch swarms. It can be

purchased at The Home Depot. (It's intended use is to hold a trowel for smoothing concrete—a bull trowel extension.) It comes in 6' lengths and snaps together for whatever length is needed to reach the swarm. You can easily attach a bucket to the clip on the end to "catch" your swarm. It is strong, lightweight, and easily transported. Of course, I had to have one! I used it last night to capture a very nice swarm and so consider that it has paid for itself already. I'm even happier to report that it wasn't even a swarm from one of my hives!

The Kansas Rural Center (KRC) along with Kansas State University are planning a research project that will investigate the sustainability of bees located in areas segregated from traditional agricultural row crops using chemically treated seeds (soy and corn). This study will take place in the Flint Hills of Kansas, an area abundant with native plants and wildflowers. With nationwide losses of honey bee colonies at greater than 40% last year, a study of this nature may help explain why our winter losses are so drastically high. This loss level is non-sustainable and if it persists, our bees are doomed. Many commercial beekeepers figured out early on that location of colonies is paramount to overall colony health. They are seeking locations away from the traditional agricultural areas to build up hives. Location, location, location—where we house our hives is more critical than ever to their success. Remember, honey bees forage in a 2 mile circle around their hive. Look at the big picture when deciding upon your hive placement, not just the "4 acres" that includes your fruit trees.

Editor's note- Safety First! Always be aware of any overhead power lines, especially when working with poles or ladders made of metal!

2015 Kansas State Fair Sept. 11-20, 2015

Honey Show

By Kristi Sanderson

The deadline for entry into the Honey Show is August 15. You may do this online or have forms postmarked on the 15th. Entry forms may be printed off of the Kansas State Fair web site, www.kansasstatefair.com The fair no longer publishes a printed exhibitor handbook but all information can be found on their web site.

Note: This year we have eliminated the governor's gift basket and increased the premiums for honey gift package.

RECEIVING TIMES: Wednesday, Sept. 9, Noon - 9:00 pm & Thursday, Sept. 10, 9:00 am - 9:00 pm & Friday, Sept. 11, 8:00 am - Noon. Exhibitors will need a gate admission ticket after 11:00 am. on Friday.

RELEASE TIMES: Sunday, Sept. 20, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm & Monday, Sept. 21, 9:00 am - Noon. No early releases of entries.

Kansas Honey

Open to all beekeepers, regardless of age. All jars must be plain and free of labels. No inner seals in lids.

****In addition to premiums, rosettes will also be awarded with 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place unless otherwise stated.**

| | | | | |
|--|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| AG400 Extracted Honey: | Light | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG401 Extracted Honey: | Dark | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG402 Chunk Honey: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG403 Comb Honey: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG404 Cut Comb: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG405 Crystallized/Creamed Honey: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG406 Honey Gift Package: | | \$30.00 | 20.00 | 10.00 |
| AG407 Beeswax: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG408 Beeswax Candles: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG409 Art Design in Beeswax: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG410 Frame of Honey (shallow or medium) | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| Best of Show | | \$15.00 | | |

(**also receives a plaque & rosette)

YOUTH ENTRIES, AGE 18 AND UNDER

| | | | | |
|--|--|---------|-------|------|
| AG412Y Extracted Honey: Light | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG413Y Extracted Honey: Dark | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG414Y Honey Gift Package: | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| AG415Y Frame of Honey: (shallow or medium) | | \$15.00 | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| Youth Best of Show | | \$15.00 | | |

(**also receives a plaque & rosette)

2015 Kansas State Fair Sept. 11-20, 2015

Best of Show, Regulations, Tips

By Kristi Sanderson

Best of Show: The Kansas Honey Producers Association will present an engraved plaque to the beekeeper with the greatest total number of points as determined by the judges. In open class adult division you must enter three or more classes to be eligible for this award. Youth division must enter at least two classes in the youth division.

Entry rules and regulations, with tips and scoring for entries :

Extracted Honey: also known as strained honey, is honey that has been separated from the comb by centrifugal force, gravity, straining, or other means. Shall consist of (3) three one-pound Queenline or Classic jars, no inner seals in lids. All jars must be plain and free of labels.

Chunk Honey: shall consist of (1) one strip of cut comb (full length of the jar) in three (1) one pound. Round glass jar

Comb Honey: (3) three "rounds" "cassettes" (clear lids both sides, no pressure sensitive label), or "basswood sections" (cardboard carton with window, no producer name or address).

Cut Comb Honey: (3) three comb honey cut and placed in commercial plastic comb honey boxes (4" x 4").

Crystallized/Cream Honey: Shall consist of three glass jars between (8) eight ounces and (16) sixteen ounces. All jars must be the same.

Gift Package: Items must be clearly labeled, as they would be offered for sale - except any marks identifying the entrant must be obscured or removed, or fictitious. Fictitious labels must meet legal label requirements. Gift package, if wrapped, must be able to be unwrapped for judging. Homemade food items must have recipes attached. Gift packages must contain at least 50% producer made items. A 3" x 5" note card must be included that states the intended use of package. Youth gift packages may not contain alcoholic beverages.

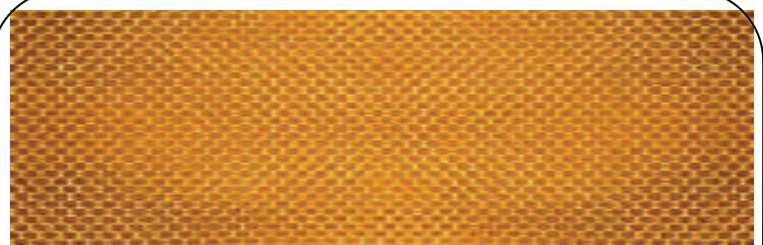
Beeswax: (3) three pound block, geometric shape, not decorative, smooth surface top and bottom

Beeswax Candles: Four molded or dipped candles. No non-beeswax enhancement allowed, except wick.

Art Design in Beeswax: Entries must be (2) two pounds minimum weight, 100% beeswax: may be more than one piece but must be firmly joined together: may be cast in mold or carved. No non-beeswax enhancement allowed.

Frame of Honey: Shallow or medium depth. Frame must be in a display case, both sides visible. A Display Case is available upon request.

Neither The Kansas State Fair nor The Kansas Honey Producers are responsible for items that are lost or stolen.



For Sale— helping a former bee keeper sell off surplus items— several boxes of 50 each non-wired wax deep & medium foundation—great for candles or foundation. Contact Greg Swob at 785 -639-7766 or swob@ruraltel.net - located in the Hays, Ks. area

2015 Kansas State Fair Sept. 11-20, 2015

Sign up for KAHP Booth

By Kristi Sanderson

This year I'm using an online program called **Sign Up Genius** for all to sign up and volunteer at the Kansas State Fair. The fair runs September 11-20 and volunteers are needed starting the 9th to help unload trailers, empty the storage area, help set up the counters in the booth and label honey, along with the many other things that it takes to get ready. On Wednesday the 9th and Thursday the 10th the sign up is one big block of time. I don't expect you to work all this time. Just fill in the time slot and then in the comment area tell me what time you want to work on the day you signed up for. On the 9th the first time slot from 9:00-11:00 I need people with muscles as some heavy lifting will be required. For the days an entry ticket is needed to enter the fair grounds a ticket will be mailed to you, so please put in your mailing address along with your phone in case there are any questions.

To find the sign up go to signupgenius.com. You may choose to become a member or not. If you don't want to become a member scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "find". Enter the creator's address which is sandersonk09@gmail.com and answer the question and click on "submit". The search will reveal one sign up for the Kansas Honey Producers titled "Kansas State Fair". Click on this and you will be in the sign up portion. Choose the time slots you want to work and click on the blue "sign up" button and then click on "submit & sign up". Fill in all required information and then click on "sign up now". You may then return to the sign up and fill in more time slots if desired. If you choose to become a member create an account and then follow the basic same instructions to fill in the time slots you wish to fill.

Once I receive entry tickets I will send you a letter confirming the times and dates you have signed up for and entry into the fair. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Kansas State Fair. *Kristi*

The Kansas State Fair and Kansas Honey Producers Association are not responsible for you having a wonderful time manning the booth! Just ask any member who has worked in the past and you will see why so many come back year after year!



A scene from the 2014 Kansas State Fair KHPA honey education booth. Don't miss out on the fun— volunteer!

Youth Grant update

by Becky Tipton

*Steve Bay, Olathe Boy Scout leader and grant recipient, sent me this article he submitted to the **Boy Scout** magazine/newsletter. I think it highlights the good work they are doing and the excitement of the grant! We are generating some good publicity for the bees!*

Becky

Earlier this year, **Troop 225** of Olathe Kansas became aware of the Kansas Honey Producers Youth Scholarship Grant. The Troop submitted a grant request and was very fortunate to have received the grant and benefit from this wonderful opportunity. The grant comes with some responsibilities as well as some rewards. Some of the responsibilities include submitting honey in the county or state fair and assisting in the Kansas Beekeepers' booth. Among the tangible awards are 2 bee hives, bees, 2 queen bees, bee suits for the boys and adult sponsors, a smoker, and MOST importantly, a mentor for a 2 year period. The intangibles are already visible and include not only the fun and excitement apparent on each of the boys' faces, but knowledge and a sense of bettering our environment because of all the good that bees have on our flowers, trees, and agricultural products.

The Kansas Honey Producers Association (KHPA) is interested in developing young people's interest in raising bees. All who are affiliated with **Boy Scouts** understand that the **Boy Scout** program is the perfect program to allow boys to learn and teach other scouts so that the program of keeping bees is sustainable for years to come. Scouts enjoy nature and love to learn about the many things nature has to offer.

The enthusiasm of the boys of **Troop 225** has been exciting to see. At one of the campouts, we assembled the hives. Lots of screws, nails and painting were involved. Our Master Beekeeper, Kristi Sanderson, was there to instruct and guide the assembly as well as tell us what to expect once the bees arrived. Wow, the boys really learned a great deal that first weekend. BUT the fun was only starting. They met a week later to "install" the bees and learned how to introduce the queen bee into each hive. Early in the stage of new hives, the bees haven't had time to build up a store of honey for food, so they boys are meeting weekly to feed

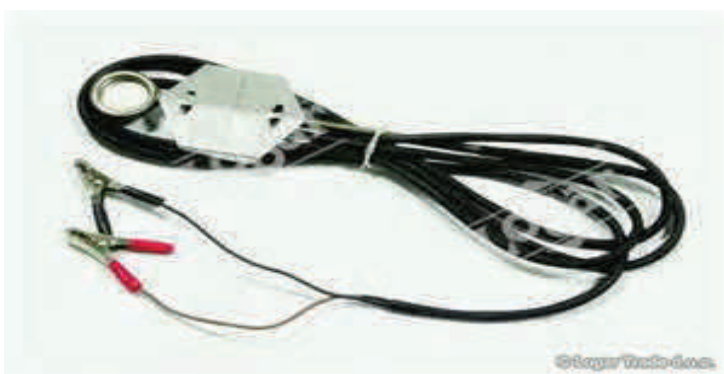
the colonies sugar water and monitor the growth of each hive. It's been exciting to watch the boys look for the queen in each hive, check to make sure she is laying eggs, and monitor how quickly the bees are building out comb.

We are very thankful for the grant provided by KHPA and for our Master Beekeeper, Kristi. There's a lot to learn to successfully raise bees but with their guidance the learning has only seemed like fun!

Steve Bay - Troop 225



Members of Troop 225 install a second brood chamber



Example of a commercially available Oxalic Acid Vaporizer—this model is powered by an automobile battery

Around and About



At left, a gathering of North Central Bee Keepers was held March 28 at Morford Lavender Farm, rural Kanopolis. Becky Tipton, Steve Tipton, Jim & Wanda Morford & Greg Swob gave presentations on beekeeping tips to north central Kansas bee keepers. Wanda & Jim Morford hosted attendees with lunch and treats!

The Northwest and Southwest Area groups held a field day at the Mel Augustine farm on March 28, in rural Trego County, Ks. The group took part in cutting open and removing a live colony within a Hackberry Tree trunk removed from Ft. Hays State University campus. In spite of needing to use a hammer and chisel at times, it was reported that the colony was incredibly docile through out the entire process.

At the February NW/SW gathering in Natoma, soaps, lotions, a hive hot dipping tank and custom hive trailer were demonstrated.



Right, 'Chip' Taylor with his swarm presentation at Northeast Ks. Bee Keeper Association annual Fun Day, June 6th. Ice Cream was a popular treat at Fun Day.



'Chip' Taylor during his swarm presentation

The Kansas Honey Producers Fall Meeting

October 30 & 31, 2015

The Cedars, 1021 Cedars Dr., McPherson KS

I'm working on the program for the fall meeting. We are going to have a fantastic guest speaker—Judy Wu Smart who has just been hired to be the University of Nebraska Extension Agent. By the time she is our guest she will have received her Doctorate from the University of MN under the watchful eye of the amazing Dr. Marla Spivak!

Her specialty is **Effects of Neonicotinoid Pesticides on Honey Bees and Bumblebees**

Masters degree, May 2010, Washington State University, Advisor: Dr. W. Steve Sheppard. Sub-lethal effects of pesticide residues in brood comb on honey bee health

B.S. degree in Zoology, May 2005, from Humboldt State University, CA

She will present some of the work she is completing now on the effects of neonicotinoid insecticides on queen bee behavior and her previous work on pesticide residues in brood comb.

We are so excited to meet her and welcome her to her new position.

We will try something different at this meeting by staying at one hotel and traveling to a different meeting space that is not in the hotel. The meeting will be held at The Cedars which is a retirement community in McPherson. They have a wonderful conference facility with room rental rates a little less than what we have been paying. They also prepare the food there and the chef is excited to make some dishes with honey for us—honey baked ham for dinner!

If you have an idea for a talk please let me know. I'm really going to try to get some of our members to talk on subjects that we have not heard yet. I would also be interested in inviting some guests to speak from other areas of the state that have interests close to beekeeping. So if you can think of someone let me know. This meeting is for you so please let me know what you would like to hear—if someone gives me a topic I can usually come up with someone to present it.

The hotel is the **Holiday Inn Express** at I-135 and Highway 56. The phone is **620-241-5566**. Our room rate is \$109.99 and includes breakfast. Reservations must be made by October 8th.

Please call me at **913-593-3562** and leave a message or email me at joli@heartland-honey.com

Our next spring meeting will be in a part of the state that in the almost 30 years I've been coming to meetings that we have not been to. We'll be in Pittsburg! They have a young club and we are trying to support the new clubs that are springing up around the state. The dates for the spring 2016 meeting are March 4 & 5, 2016 so mark your calendar.

Fall 2015 Kansas Honey Producers Association conference

Friday & Saturday, October 30 & 31 2015 Registration Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____

COUNTY _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ please write email address clearly

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

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

Pre-registration (must be received by October 23)

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Registration Fee | (\$35.00 x _____) = _____ |
| Friday Lunch | (\$15.25 x _____) = _____ |
| Friday Dinner | (\$18.00 x _____) = _____ |
| Saturday Lunch | (\$15.25 x _____) = _____ |

Children-5-18 (under 5 free) Registration (\$10.00 x _____) = _____

Non-Members Add \$15.00 (\$15.00 x _____) = _____

Late Registration, after Oct.23rd & at the door \$20 per person:

(\$20.00 x _____) = _____

Our wish is that all attendees who are non-members will join, however we welcome everyone to the meeting!

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

Youth Membership 2015 (18 years of age or under) Renewal New \$7.50 _____

Membership 2015 Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assn: Renewal New \$15.00 _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:

Kansas Honey Producers Assn or KHPA and mail to

Robert Burns, 7601 W. 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202913-or email rburns@kc.rr.com

Registration & payment now accepted with PayPal at kansashoneyproducers.org

Note: No receipts will be sent

Remember to register early!

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says

Believe it or not, this was an actual headline from a major newspaper article not long ago. If you noticed that headline above and thought... 'gee, that sounds like something silly that our **Cappings** Editor would print', you're not alone. Proof reading may be a dying art.

Part of the intent of this story is to take a moment to apologize to anyone who may have sent in an article in the past only to find that a word, sentence or even a page went missing when it actually hit the **Cappings**. My background is definitely not in printed media and no doubt that shows in each issue of **Cappings**. I just wish to let you all know that I thoroughly enjoy editing **your** newsletter and I want to thank you for the confidence you've placed in me as editor. While it is definitely unintentional, sometimes, things just plain get missed or overlooked.

While I'm blessed with a fantastic proof reader, but she is not an experienced bee keeper. Her knowledge of bee keeping is gleaned from overhearing a conversation here and there. But, she sure knows grammar and spelling! So, even though at least two sets of eyes review your newsletter before you do, sometimes we miss something. And when we do... of course, it's all her fault!

I ask you to please feel free to send in articles you find of interest, your own stories, photos, recipes and most importantly, any suggestions you have to improve **YOUR** newsletter. Also, I want KHPA members to feel free to submit a small advertisement to insert in **Cappings**. Perhaps there are some excess items you are wanting to sell or items you might be looking for. These little ads are very welcome as they help serve your needs and for me, make a great opportunity to fill a little open space here and there that might otherwise remain uncomfortably blank. If the ads are occasional and small, there will be no charge for them.

Send to: **Greg Swob – Editor –**
gswob@mwenergy.com – swob@ruraltel.net or
mail to me at— 1569 Toulon Ave.- Hays, Ks. 67601 or
text to: 785-639-7766.

Editorial

By Greg Swob

What do you see?



Trivia

A typical human sees colors vividly. What the honey bee sees is a 'flower of a different color', however. The dandelion above appears to be a bright monochromatic yellow to most of us. But to the bee, the center of the flower looks like a big red target instead. Human vision is limited to the visible light electromagnetic wavelength spectrum only. Honey bees see nearly Ultraviolet light wavelengths instead. The image on the right more closely resembles what scientists feel the bee sees.

"Happiness does not come from a job. It comes from knowing what you truly value and behaving in a way that's consistent with those beliefs."

Mike Rowe (1962-), Writer and actor best known for hosting Discovery Channel's "Dirty Jobs."

Tidbits



KHPA President Steve with his swarm pole in action

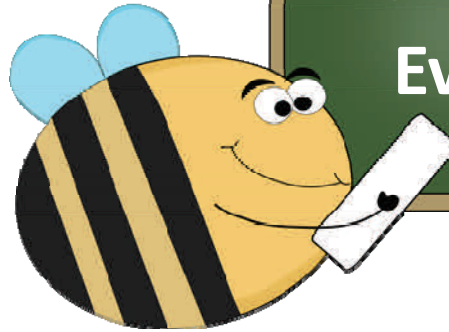


Rose Lee's Art Show exhibit—Spring 2015 KHPA Meeting in Manhattan.



A common sign that shows summer is upon us.

Upcoming Events



Northeast Ks. Bee Keepers Assn

Bee-Bee-Que

Pot Luck Picnic—July 19 1:00 PM—5PM at 2110 Harper St., Lawrence, Ks— www.nebka.org

Kansas State Fair!

Sept. 11—20, 2015

Volunteer for your KHPA booth!

See regulations and articles on pages 3—5

“Putting the Bee in Boulder”

Western Apicultural Society

Annual Meeting and Honey Conference:

Oct. 1-3, 2015 - Millennium Hotel— Boulder, Colorado

(code WAS2015 for room rates \$159) (303)-433-3850

Marla Spivak, Tim Tucker, Susan Kegley and others

2015 Fall KHPA Meeting

October 30 & 31, 2015 at The Cedars

1021 Cedars Dr. McPherson, Ks.

A block of rooms has been set at the Holiday Inn Express—2302 E. Kansas Ave.—McPherson, Ks - call for reservations 620-241-5566

2016 Spring KHPA Meeting

March 4—5, 2016—Pittsburg, Ks

Site, speakers and topics to be announced

Kansas Honey Producer's Association
Cappings
R Burns
7601 W. 54th Terrace
Shawnee Mission KS 66202

Address Service Requested

2015 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.) \$15.00 _____

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

Additional family member's names:



Youth Membership (18 years of age or under) \$7.50 _____ American Bee Journal 1 year subscription \$21.50 _____

Bee Culture Magazine (formerly "Gleanings") 1 year subscription \$25.00 _____

Donation Amount _____ Total Due _____

Make checks payable to: KHPA or Kansas Honey Producer's Association or pay on line at www.kansashoneyproducers.org

Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66202 Phone# 913-831-6096 or email- rburns@kc.rr.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.