



CAPPINGS

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



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

3rd Quarter 2017

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USDA News Release—Crop Insurance for Beekeepers

WASHINGTON, July 27, 2017 – Crop insurance for beekeeper operations has been expanded to include 19 additional states and now spans the entire 48 contiguous states. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) today announced changes to the Apiculture Pilot Insurance (API) plan, ensuring greater protection for the producers' honey, pollen collection, wax, and breeding stock.

"Expanding this coverage so that more producers can participate in the Federal crop insurance program strengthens the rural economy through a broader farm safety net," said RMA Acting Administrator **Heather Manzano**. "This provides increased support for beekeepers who play a critical role in agriculture."

Apiculture systems are diverse, with varying types of plant species and climate conditions. API is designed to cover the unique precipitation requirements of different regions across the nation.

In addition to expanding API coverage, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board of Directors voted to replace the satellite-based Vegetation Index with the precipitation-based Rainfall Index for API policies. Available since 2009, API was developed through the Federal Crop Insurance Act's 508(h) process, which allows private submitters to develop innovative insurance products to meet the needs of producers.

Producers have until Nov. 15, 2017 to enroll in API coverage for the 2018 crop year. Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the [RMA Agent Locator](https://www.rma.usda.gov).

Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at <https://www.rma.usda.gov>

Ten Things You can do to help bees

1. Plant bee-friendly flowers and flowering herbs in your yard/garden
2. Weeds can be a good thing! (Clover and weeds can benefit pollinators)
3. Don't use chemicals & pesticides to treat your lawn/garden
4. Buy Local, Raw Honey
5. Bees need water—put a basin of fresh water outside your home
6. Learn how to be a beekeeper or help your local beekeepers
7. Understand that honeybees are 'not out to get you' (they are vegetarians)
8. Share solutions with others in your community
9. Let your local city/county commissioners or council know what you think—support ordinances in favor of beekeeping
10. Let your state and national legislators know what you think—ask them to support pollinator-friendly legislation



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President's Corner

Had Thomas Edison been a beekeeper...

Many famous people are or were beekeepers - Aristotle and his student- Alexander the Great, plant hybrid pioneer Gregor Mendel, Brigham Young, authors Leo Tolstoy and Henry David Thoreau; actors- Henry and Peter Fonda, Samuel L Jackson and Scarlett Johansson; Sir Edmund Hillary, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Martha Stewart and a plethora of others. Looking at this list we are indeed a part of greatness by sharing beekeeping with them. Of course, the one who deserves true celebrity status is the ever humble honey bee!

Great people don't just fall into greatness. They become well-known because of their persona. Among their traits - problem solving, imagination, ability to listen, power of observation, work ethic, drive for life or a combination of these. Many sold results of their ideas to the masses like Bill Gates and Steve Jobs. Edison had all those attributes and I can only imagine how he would have tackled a problem such as the Varroa Mite. Or how he might have handled modern bee hive management in general with colony losses being what they are today. Nothing I have read about Edison says he was a beekeeper... but what if he had been?

Modern beekeeping needs Edison-like problem solvers now more than ever. Many in your association are doing just that. Often with simple inventions or modifications of existing items. At our local beekeeper meetings, we set aside time for 'show & tell'. That is where we share some new beekeeping tool, item purchased or device one of us invented. We have seen unique hive tools, home-made Oxalic Acid vaporizers, modified inner covers, queen introduction cages, Top Bar Hive comb reinforcements and many other items developed by our fellow beekeepers. These inventions help solve problems and are the result of keen observation and attention to detail—Edison would be proud!

That reminds me of something I am very proud of... we Kansas beekeepers share freely! I am always impressed by the generosity of our fellow Kansas beekeeper to share experience, knowledge, tips, suggestions, recipes and techniques.

When asked about his nearly 10,000 failed attempts to create a working light bulb. Edison's direct reply was, "I didn't fail. I found 10,000 ways that didn't work." His outside the box thinking was helpful in the path to bringing light to darkness and other problems he worked on.

He once told a group of staff engineers, "Hell, there are no rules here... we're trying to accomplish something!" My father would

would have said something like that.

Dad never patented anything, but sure invented a lot of equipment and accessories that made our farm work easier or more efficient. A visionary right up to his passing, with his last 'project' ended in a set of drawings and specifications for a problem-solving device that he felt hospital beds should be equipped with to make life easier for healthcare workers and their patients.

Failures in beekeeping can result in lost revenue, reduced or no honey production, frustration and worse, lost colonies. If you have made or discovered a tool, method, device, system... that helps solve an issue with your beekeeping, please share it with the rest of us! (Unless you are working on a patent for it... In that case you shouldn't share any details until the patent process is complete.) KHPA members appreciate when one of our own is a presenter at our conferences. This is especially true when something you've created is shared. I believe it helps make our conferences more interpersonal when a familiar face is teaching us something. We learn a lot about one another also which helps bond us to each other and this great organization.

The road ahead is full of challenges for beekeepers. Many of these were unheard of until just a few years ago. We need more Edison-like thinkers to help solve the problems these challenges present. An example of beekeeping ingenuity can be seen with the Mobile Extraction Trailer **Gary LaGrange's SAVE Farm** group has recently built. See page 8 in this Cappings.

Don't forget to mark your calendars to join the South Central Ks. group, **Great Plains Beekeepers** at Bee Fest-2017 in Newton, Sept. 30th. See the related article in Cappings page 10.

Congratulations to all the State Fair honey judging entry winners!

Check out the lineup for our fall 2017 conference in Emporia—super listing of presentations!

Lastly, we are still looking for a new Cappings Editor. **Greg**



*"I'd put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait till oil and coal run out before we tackle that."
Thomas Edison
(1847 - 1931)*

Fall 2017 Kansas Honey Producers Fall Meeting

Friday and Saturday, October 27 & 28, 2017

Best Western Hospitality House

3021 W. Hwy 50, Emporia, KS 66801— 620-342-7587

To make reservations at the Best Western, call 620-342-7587 and mention the Kansas Honey Producers Association to get the best rate. Room rates are \$79.99 plus tax for a nonsmoking double room or a non-smoking king. Reservations should be made by October 12th.

One of our guest speakers several of us had the pleasure of hearing speak at the North American Beekeeping Conference is Dr. Yong Park is from the University of Arkansas. His presentation on Honey Bee Morphology and Anatomy was fantastic. He brought in microscopes so that we could all look at the bee parts. He'll do the same for us! Another presentation he'll be giving is on Small Hive Beetles. He will be presenting four times.

One of our favorite people in the world is Clint Walker of Walker Honey Farm & Dancing Bee Winery, in Rogers Texas. Clint's family business was forced to change when Africanized Bees moved into the area and put the kibosh on their queen and package bee business. They were forced to reinvent themselves and he'll share those experiences with us.

Our third guest speaker is Reyah Carlson, an Apitherapy specialist, from Vermont. She is highly regarded in her field. One of her presentations is The Medicine Chest known as the Bee Hive. She also presents on the health and nutrition of all honey bee produced substances and how to use them: raw honey, pollen, propolis, royal jelly and venom. She will also demonstrate the sting technique and application. She is currently researching the use of bee sting therapy on tick borne illnesses. She is highly recommended by KHPA member, Tim Tucker. Reyah will be presenting three times.

Bring your favorite snack food sweetened with your wonderful honey. Sweet or savory, healthy or indulgent, bring enough for small portions for about 75 people. Bring your own serving utensils. If heating or refrigeration is needed, you are on your own. (FYI If staying at the hotel there are refrigerators and microwaves in the rooms). We will provide plates and napkins. Please bring copies of your recipe to share but NO NAMES—let's keep everyone guessing. Give one copy of your recipe to Becky Tipton for publication of winning recipes. Contest will be held Friday afternoon (a before dinner treat) and winners announced Saturday morning. A small premium will be awarded but the real win is bragging rights

If you belong to a local beekeeping group please promote our meeting to your group. If you have any questions please call me at 913-856-8356 or email me at joli@heartlandhoney.com. If emailing please put KHPA in the message line.

Special Guest for the Friday evening banquet—Ann Birney will perform a historical presentation with her portrayal of Rachel Carson, author of the environmental science book, Silent Spring. This compelling book helped lead to the banning of DDT, awareness of potential harm from other harsh chemicals and started many environmental movements.

**Fall 2017 Kansas Honey Producers Program
Best Western Hospitality House Emporia KS
October 27th and 28th 2017**

Executive Committee Meeting -Thursday October 26th 8:00 pm in the Regency 2 Room at the Best Western

Friday, October 27th

7:30-8:20 am	Registration, Silent Auction Set Up, Visit Vendors
8:20-8:30 am	President Greg Swob -Call to Order
8:30-9:25 am	Clint Walker: <i>Producing Varietal Honey: Plants, Plans, Process, Profit, Perchance and Pure Pleasure</i>
9:25-10:20 am	Sue Stringer; KS Agritourism Manager: <i>Opportunities to be a part of the KS Agritourism Program and to be a part of the Limited Liability Protection Program</i>
10:20-10:40 am	Break
10:40-11:35 am	Reyah Carlson: <i>The Medicine Chest Known as the Bee Hive—Pollen and Honey</i>
11:35-12:30	Loren Minnich: KS Department of Ag., Weights and Measures, <i>Packaging and Labeling Laws</i>
12:30-1:30	Lunch on your own
1:30-2:25	Dr. Yong Park: <i>Honey Bees: Morphology and Anatomy</i>
2:25-3:20	Clint Walker: <i>Boutique Beekeeping for Fun and Profit: How to Self-Define Your Beekeeping Operation</i>
3:20-3:40	Break & end of silent auction-visit microscopes that are set up by Dr. Park
3:40-4:35	Reyah Carlson: <i>The Medicine Chest Known as the Bee Hive-Royal Jelly and Propolis</i>
4:35-	Meeting of the Regional Directors with their constituents-some groups need to choose new directors for their areas
5:00	Fall Honey Snacks and Hors d'oeuvres contest See note above about the rules for the contest -Also visit microscopes that are set up by Dr. Park
6:00	Dinner & Program - Beekeeper of the Year - State Fair Best of Show Awards —Ann Birney special guest, portrays Rachel Carson, author of <u>Silent Spring</u>

Saturday, October 28th

7:45-8:20 am	Registration, Silent Auction Set up, Visit vendors
8:20-8:30 am	President Greg Swob -Call to Order
8:30-9:25 am	Clint Walker: <i>"Selling" the Farm: Destination Farming, Agri-Tourism and Niche Marketing</i>
9:25-10:20 am	Dr. Yong Park- <i>What Happens after 10 years without any treatment?</i>
10:20-10:40 am	Break
10:40-11:35 am	Reyah Carlson: <i>The Medicine Chest Known as the Bee Hive-Bee Venom Therapy-Technique and Application of the Sting</i>
11:35-12:00	Grant groups present-- <i>Cherry Street Youth Center & Stringtown 4-H</i>
1:00-1:55	Clint Walker: <i>Everything you ever wanted to know about someone else's bee, honey and mead business but were afraid to ask</i>
1:55-2:50	Jim Kellie: <i>Agricultural Pesticides & Fungicides. The Relationship between the Beekeeper and the Farming Community</i>
2:50-3:00	Break—end of silent auction
3:00-3:55	Dr. Yong Park: <i>Small Hive Beetles: How to Initiate Egg Laying</i>
4:00	General Business Meeting and Elections

The Kansas Honey Producers Association Fall 2017 Meeting Registration Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____

COUNTY _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ write email address clearly

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

List names of those registered for name tags _____

Children-please list for a name tags-- under 18 free _____

Meeting Registration For Members:

Per person if paid before October 16th \$ 85 X _____ = _____

Per person if paid after October 16th \$115 X _____ = _____

Children under 18 free

Meeting Registration For Non-members: (Includes a 1 year membership)

Per person if paid before October 16th \$100 X _____ = _____

Per person if paid after October 16th \$130 X _____ = _____

Friday Dinner -Buffet Chicken Breast with Pilaf or Pitt Ham, green beans, cauliflower & broccoli, scalloped potatoes, salad, roll and sherbet.

Check here if you want a vegetarian meal _____ veggie meal \$18.00 X _____ = _____

Children under 12 \$9 X _____ = _____

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

Youth Membership 2018 (18 years of age or under) ___ Renewal ___ New \$7.50 _____

Membership 2018 Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assn: ___ Renewal ___ New \$15.00 _____

Donation for Grant Project \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Kansas Honey Producers Assn or KHPA and mail to

Robert Burns, 7601 W. 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202

913-481-3504 or email rburnshoney@gmail.com

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

If you have questions please call Joli Winer, at 913-856-8356

Note: No receipts will be sent

Kansas Honey Producers Assn. Youth Grant

The Kansas Honey Producers provides a youth grant for groups wanting to add honey bees to their curriculum. In 2017, our grant was awarded to the **Cherry Street Youth Center**. **Jennifer** and **Denise** lead this program for the Youth Center. The **Cherry Street Youth Center's** activities are enhanced by a great garden project. The honey bees fit very nicely into that curriculum, creating quite a buzz with both students and parents! **Ron Smail**, lola, is their mentor and reports a very positive experience mentoring this young group. **Cherry Street Youth Center** did harvest a small amount of honey but didn't make enough to enter in the KS State Fair so we'll look forward to seeing their entries next year. Some of you may have had a chance to meet them as they worked the State Fair booth.

Completing their second year is the **Stringtown Bombers 4-H** group of Burlington, KS. This group is led by **Monique Hart**. **Danny Decker**, Lyndon, is their mentor and he's told us what a great job they have done taking care of their bees. Congratulations to the **Stringtown** group for completing the requirements of the KHPA grant!

Do you know of a group serving youth that would like to add honey bees to their study? Please show them our grant and talk to them about the application process. It's easy. You can find complete information on our web page: www.kansashoneyproducers.org. The grant deadline for the 2018 season is Oct. 2, 2017. (Individuals or individual families are not being considered for this grant program.)

I also wish to express my sincere gratitude to all who donate to our silent auction held at each meeting, either by donating items or by bidding. All that money goes to fund our educational efforts and this program particularly. Your generosity is heart-warming.



Silent Auction: bring items, bee-related is nice but not mandatory, to our meeting. We will add them to the silent auction table. Let the bidding begin. All are welcome to participate.

Becky Tipton—3rd Vice President

Left- Brown's Busy Beekeepers youth group inspecting colonies May 2016. south of Abilene, Ks.

News from Northeast Ks.

The months of July, August, and so far the first couple of weeks in September have been busy for the Northeastern group. In July, we had our annual field day picnic that this year at Gage Park in Topeka. A great venue included excellent food, air conditioning, and a super informational and hands-on presentation by our very own pollinator plant specialist Jo Patrick. Jo educated the audience on plants that offer a summer nectar and pollen sources and then we were treated on how to make seed bombs.

Our monthly meetings continue to be well attended and average between 175 and 225 beekeepers that are treated to great speakers who cover interesting topics and share a wealth of information. Topics have included making a homemade solar wax melter, all aspects of varroa mites, late season plants that offer a nectar and pollen source, and fall/winter hive management.

Upcoming calendar events include our annual Youth Scholarship Auction and honey cookie exchange on December 18th, 7:00 pm at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Lawrence. This event is always well attended, fun, and a great opportunity to pick up bee related items, equipment, and homemade goods while supporting our young people thru the NEKBA Youth Scholarship Fund. We invite everyone to this evening of fun, delicious baked goods, and the opportunity to bid against your fellow beekeeper on all kinds of great merchandise.

Chad Gilliland—Northeast Region Director

Northcentral Region News

North Central Kansas beekeepers have been meeting every other month this past year, and will meet again Sunday, October 15 at Morford Lavender Farm near Kanopolis for a discussion on Fall management practices and a list of things to do in preparation for another inevitable Winter. In recent news, several members from North Central Kansas volunteered at the Kansas State Fair Kansas Honey Producers booth in mid September.

At the August gathering in Kanopolis, members shared experiences with their beekeeping operations. Ever wonder how to control your environment for honey production? How about owning 2000 acres which have pollinator friendly planting throughout and no chemical use. How does raising bees affect farming practices? We learned for one farmer it meant changing to crops that do not require pesticides and totally altering farming practices with a focus on habitat and bees. Upcoming meeting in December will be December 10th. If you reside in or near the North Central Kansas area, you are welcome to attend our gatherings. Like us on Facebook "North Central Kansas Beekeepers" for the latest information from the region.

Dr. Jim Morford, North Central Region Director

News from our Colorado beekeeping friends

Join the CSBA (Colorado State Beekeeper Association) at their Winter 2017 meeting— Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 Island Grove Regional Park, 501 N. 14th Ave., Greeley, Colo. go to their website to see details as they become available. www.coloradobeekeepers.org

Katie Lee, PHD student of Marla Spivak seen below middle, speaking on Bee Informed Partnership. Katie also showed a live demonstration of Hygienic Behavior testing at a local commercial beekeeper apiary. Also at CSBA's meeting were: sugar shake— alcohol wash mite count demonstrations, disease identification at a local apiary, Don Studinski presented on Certified Naturally Grown Beekeeping, Greg Swob spoke on **SAVE Farm** . Other bee discussions filled the day at a packed house on June 10, 2017 at Garfield Co. Fairgrounds.



Ed Colby and his Gal Marilyn's back yard BBQ the evening prior to CSBA Summer Bee College meeting at Rifle, Co



Rifle Falls—well worth the short hike!

Cookie Monster and the Honeybee... on public TV!



What do **Elmo**, **Cookie Monster** and our beloved **honey bee** have in common? They are stars on a Kansas public television station. **Smoky Hills Public TV (SHPTV)** of Bunker Hill, Kansas produces a program called **Real Ag**. This **SHPTV** original series focuses on various aspects of agriculture in Kansas. The show airs during its regular season at 7:30 PM on Thursday evenings. Many of the 2017 episodes are available for viewing at **SHPTV** website now. **Real Ag** episodes discuss a variety of agriculture-related topics. including: Ks. Dept. of Ag. inspections and weights, equipment & technology, microbreweries, agritourism, robotic dairies, honey, transportation, fish farms, etc.

During the fall 2016 KHPA meeting at Hays, Ks., guest speaker **Dr. Ron Fessenden** and KHPA's Greg Swob were interviewed for the April 2017 **SHPTV Real Ag** episode, aptly titled- **Honey**. The program begins with an introduction from the show's producer, followed by a message from **Jerry Brown** of **REV Honey**, Had-dam, Ks. In this show, topics such as varietal honey, imported honey, honey production, the necessity of bees in agriculture, etc. are discussed. Of course, with **Dr. Fessenden** participating, one can be assured the health aspects of honey were well explained. KHPA Southcentral Region Director, **Bill Vinduska**, is seen working among some of their colonies in a few scenes of the **Real Ag—Honey** episode also.

Many people consume honey with the goal of helping with their allergies. If you would like to hear the 'real answer' to this important topic, **Dr. Fessenden** gave an excellent response.

SHPTV covers a large portion of central and western Kansas, and may not be available in your viewing area. You can, however view this 29 minute episode on your mobile device or computer at the link below no matter where you are located:

<http://video.smokyhillstv.org/video/2365979472/>



A swarm chose to set up housekeeping and build comb on the exterior of a window pane at a vacant farm house in rural Barton County. They appear to have been in this location for much of the summer. Neighbors noticed the hive and contacted KHPA member, **Bruce Swob**. The lower window is completely open, this colony could have easily built comb inside the home rather than on the exterior and would have gone unnoticed for a long time. Left, **Bruce** studies removal options. 9- 6-2017



A different kind of “mobile app”!

S.A.V.E. Farm— Mobile Extraction Trailer is now a reality.

S.A.V.E.—Service-member Agriculture Vocation Education Farm

The newest addition to the S.A.V.E. Farm is a mobile extraction trailer housed at the beekeeping equipment store and training facility in Manhattan, KS. The trailer is equipped with everything needed to extract honey and is certified as a commercial kitchen by the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Soldiers and vets learn to extract and bottle honey as part of their season-long apiculture management training. “A second extractor will be added to meet the growing need as we move toward 200 colonies next year.”, according to **Nikki Bowman** of **SAVE Farm** and **Golden Prairie Honey Farms**. Their trailer is equipped with electrical circuits, lighting and the equipment needed to extract honey. Seen below are photos of the equipment layout and in use during the extraction process. Earlier this year, **SAVE Farm** participants planted over 100 acres of soybeans for the first crop at the newly leased-to-purchase farm near Manhattan, Ks.

Top two photos below – exterior & interior views of the Mobile Extraction Trailer.



KHPA member **Gary La Grange**, founder of **SAVE Farm** demonstrates and supervises uncapping/extractation/straining processes in their Mobile Extraction Trailer



US Postal Services releases Pollinator Protection Forever stamps. To order your First-day-of issue stamps: Customers have 60 days to obtain first-day-of-issue postmarks by mail. They may purchase new stamps at United States Post Office locations, at the Postal Store usps.com/shop or by calling 800-782-6724. They should affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes to themselves or others and place them in larger envelopes addressed to: FDOI – Protect Pollinators Stamps—USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services—8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 300—Kansas City, MO 64144-9900

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for postmarks up to a quantity of 50. For more than 50, customers are charged 5 cents each. All orders must be postmarked by Oct. 3, 2017.

2017 Kansas State Fair



The 2017 Kansas state Fair is now another page in our history books. As usual, state fair honey competition entries were well represented for 2017. Below are this year's winners in the various categories. KHPA wants to officially congratulate the winners and encourage members to enter in future state fairs. Youth categories are for those 18 and under.

	<u>1st Place</u>	<u>2nd Place</u>	<u>3rd Place</u>
01— Art Design in Beeswax	Rose Lee	Stephanie Brown	Gage Mounce
02—Beeswax	Mark Mounce	Kimberly Lee	Brian Withrow
03—Beeswax Candles	Gage Mounce	Caitlin Brown	Stephanie Brown
04—Chunk Honey	Kristi Sanderson	Kimberly Lee	-
05—Comb Honey	Mark Mounce	Stephanie Brown	Kristi Sanderson
06—Crystallized / Creamed	Kristi Sanderson	Brian Withrow	Stephanie Brown
07—Cut Comb	John Wittredge	Kristi Sanderson	Kimberly Lee
08—Extracted Honey, Dark	Stephanie Brown	Brian Withrow	Terry Arbogast
09—Extracted Honey, Light	Julie Cahoj	Richard Fanning	Robert Kersey
10—Frame of Honey	Mark Mounce	Joli Winer	Julie Cahoj
11—Honey Gift Package	Kimberly Lee	Stephanie Brown	Cheryl Clapper
12—Youth Extracted Honey, Light	James Newton	Cherry Street Youth Center	Annabelle Davis
13—Youth Extracted Honey, Dark	Gage Mounce	-	-
14—Youth Honey Gift Package	-	-	-
15—Youth Frame of Honey	-	-	-

Adult Best of Show—Stephanie Brown

Youth Best of Show— James Newton



Left— KHPA booth preparations 9-6-2017



Right— booth in action 9-11-2017

Honey Available from State Fair Booth

Unsold honey from the KHPA State Fair booth is available at \$3.00/ pound, in various-sized containers

Contact Kristi Sanderson if you want some of this honey— call 913-768-4961 or email at sandersonk09@gmail.com

Kristi will deliver it to the Fall 2017 KHPA conference in Emporia, but you **MUST** order in advance

Bee Fest—2017 in Newton—September 30

September 30, 2017, our group, **Great Plains Beekeepers**, will host **Bee Fest** at **St. Mary's School - 101 E 9th St., Newton, Kansas**. The **Bee Fest** will be from 9:00 AM—4:00 PM. Registration includes lunch and snacks. If you are new to beekeeping there will be great information on how to get started. Already a beekeeper? There will be plenty of discussions on current beekeeping topics. For more information and to register please visit www.greatplainsbeekeepers.org

Great Plains Beekeepers meet the 2nd Saturday of the month at Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita. Meetings are 1:00-3:00 PM but some will gather around noon to look thru the hives we have on the property. The **Great Plains Beekeepers** group helps to guide people to find their way of keeping bees and we discuss all types of beekeeping. We are here to promote the fascinating world of the honeybee and we will help anyone that wants to join, no matter what hive type they choose. We want everyone to be successful in their passion for beekeeping.

Bill & Candy Vinduska

Selling Your Honey Retail in Kansas Stores

Any Kansas beekeeper can sell honey without any limitations 'directly' to consumers' hands. (There are specific labeling requirements, but that is another subject of discussion) This means the facility in which the honey is extracted, bottled, etc. does not need to be a state inspected/licensed food processing facility for direct to consumer honey sales. However, under current Kansas regulations, if you wish to sell your honey through any retail establishment, any processing including—extraction, straining and bottling done with your honey must be completed in a state licensed/inspected food processing facility. The Ks Dept. of Agriculture currently administers the rules, inspections and licensing of food processing facilities in our state.

It is a pleasure to announce a promising update for Kansas beekeepers wishing to sell honey through retail establishments. **Chad Bontrager**, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and several of his staff from the KDA office in Manhattan will meet face to face with members of KHPA on September 28. They will formally present which concessions the state of Kansas is willing to offer on retail honey sales as it relates to food processing and licensing facilities. We are hoping for a reasonable deviation from the current Kansas Food Code for Kansas beekeepers wishing to sell honey in local retail stores. This Cappings issue hit the presses prior to that meeting, so we don't have a formal report to print here. An announcement of the results from this joint meeting at the KHPA fall conference in Emporia. This item was a result of 'seeds planted' during my initial visit with **Gov. Brownback** and **Ks. Secretary of Agriculture, Jackie McClaskey** at the 2016 Ks. State Fair on behalf of Kansas beekeepers. Many ongoing conversations with KDA staff since that time have passed on this and other bee-related issues in Kansas. **Marietta Graham, Nikki Bowman, Rick Anderson** represented KHPA at this meeting. **Greg Swob** began the process but was unable to attend the meeting.

Our neighbors, Missouri (Senate Bill 500 signed into law in 2016) and Colorado (2015 Cottage Food Industry legislation) along with about 14 other states have some form of regulations permitting beekeepers to sell their honey through grocery stores without the necessity of building a fully compliant and inspected food processing facility. We feel our honey is a safe food product which a consumer can purchase at their local farmers market and they should also be able to purchase that same honey at a local grocery, convenience or other retail store.

Greg Swob

Cappings Editor Needed

It's time for KHPA members to get a fresh look to your newsletter. Greg Swob will continue as current editor until the end of this year or until a new editor comes along, whichever happens first. Your association's new editor will have artistic license to alter the newsletter format as she/he deems necessary and utilize newsletter software of their option. Following is a brief description of the position:

The position of Editor is voluntary, not compensated and is open to any member of the organization. Editor is not an officer nor has a vote on Executive Committee matters.

Proficient use of a personal computer and software for compiling a newsletter is a must. (Microsoft Publisher is the current software used. The new editor can opt to use software of his/her choice to produce the newsletter.)

The ability to email large numbers of newsletters at a time (We recommend splitting the lists by alphabet and keep the groups small (less than 25) so they do not show up as a mass email 'spam' to the recipient's email filters.

The newsletter is published quarterly, so it does not require a large amount of ongoing time input.

Current time frame for release of issues is per quarter year: 1st quarter— promote the spring KHPA conference;

2nd quarter- to promote the KHPA booth and entries at Kansas State Fair; 3rd quarter- to promote the fall KHPA conference;

Fourth quarter to wrap the year up. The release month dates can be altered as deemed necessary, but the Executive Committee wishes to make certain Cappings promotes these special events as well as possible.

Contact KHPA officers to obtain reports to place into the newsletter.

Search for news items on a state, regional, national, etc. level that may be of interest to KHPA members.

An email list is sent by Treasurer each quarter so newsletters can be sent out by email, saving KHPA printing and postage expenses.

Printed copies are mailed out to those who request a paper copy. Currently, Northeast Ks. Beekeepers Association volunteers the use of their printer for this purpose.

Contact any KHPA officer with questions and if you wish to begin this fun project for your organization.



Upcoming Events

KHPA Fall 2017 Conference

Best Western Hospitality House

3021 W. Hwy 50 - Emporia, Ks. 66801

Call motel for reservations at 620-342-7587
Room Rate \$79.99 + tax—reserve by Oct. 12th

For Sale:

Hawley Honey Company—Raymond E. Cooper
220 N. Elm St.—Iola, KS. 66749

White Honey in 5 gal buckets—New Jars
Extractors: Manual - 3-frame \$225—4-frame- \$275
Motorized: 6 Frame- \$550—12-Frame- \$850
24-Frame -\$1200
Frames—\$0.95— Bee Nucs—Queens (in season) -
Corn Syrup—Bee Suits. Complete Line of Bee Equip-
ment—If you need it, we have it!
Delivery is available to: Kansas City, Lawrence, Empo-
ria & Wichita

Call: Days—620-365-5956 Nights—620-365-7919 or
e-mail madelinecooper@sbcglobal.net

BBQ—Backyard Beekeeping Question

Q— I am fairly new to beekeeping and wonder where to go for good information on how to be successful with honeybees in my part of Kansas? K S New-bee

BBQ- That is a great question. Kansas is a very diverse state. Weather, soil, crop and other conditions vary quite widely from one part of our state to another. The best place to find good information is to join your local bee-keeping club or group. Several local clubs are listed in this Cappings issue, representing groups from across the state. If you know of a local club that is not listed, please let the Cappings editor know and we will post contact and other information about the group in future issues.

Local/Regional Meetings

Konza Beekeepers Association

Meet second Tuesday every month at 7:00 PM
at Sunset Zoo in Manhattan, Ks.
<http://www.konzabeekeepers.org>

Northeast Ks. Beekeepers Assn.

3rd Monday each month at 7:00PM Douglas Co. Fairgrounds
2110 Harper St., Lawrence, Ks. www.nekba.org

Heartland Beekeepers Assn. of SE Kansas

Meet 1st Thursday each month—6:30-8:45 PM—Room 102
Yates Hall—Pittsburg State University Campus
<https://www.hbasek.org>

Shawnee County Area Beekeeping

3rd Wednesday each month—6:30 PM at Shawnee North
Community Center—300 NE 43rd—Topeka, Ks email:
bstbees@embarqmail.com

Southcentral Ks. Honey Producers Assn.

2nd Saturdays each month @ 1:00 PM—Great Plains Nature
Center— 6232 E 29th St. North—Wichita

Golden Prairie Beekeepers Association

2nd Tuesday each month—6:30 PM at Garnett Co Extension
Office—124 W County Rd, Columbus, Ks. Contact: Marlin
Mc Gowin: 875-433-1381

Northcentral Ks.

Meet at Morford Lavender Farm—1376 18th Rd., Kanopolis,
Ks 785-472-4984—join North Central Beekeepers on Face-
book to become notified of meetings.

Cherokee County Area Beekeepers

Meet 3rd Thursday at 6:30 PM at Cherokee Co. K-State Re-
search and Extension office— 124 W County Rd.—Columbus,
Ks. <https://www.facebook.com/CCABclub/>

Western Ks Beekeepers

Meet at various locations in western Ks.
Contact- Carolyn Simpson- crs@wbsnet.org 620-765-0098
Greg Swob—gswob@mwenergy.com 785-639-7766

Solomon Valley Beekeepers

solomonvalleybeekeepers@gmail.com

Flint Hills Beekeepers

fhbeekeepers@gmail.com

Mother Earth News Fair

Oct. 21-22, 2017 Kansas ExpoCentre— One Expocentre
Drive—Topeka, Ks.
Sat—9:00 AM—6:00 PM Sunday— 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
<http://www.motherearthnewsfair.com/kansas/>

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 \$24.00 _____

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.

Mail to: **Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66202**— Phone# 913-831-6096— E-mail: rburnshoney@gmail.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.



Kansas Honey Producer's Association

Cappings

Robert Burns

7601 W. 54th Terrace

Shawnee Mission, KS 66202

Address Service Requested