



Blowing Smoke

By Bob Williams, President

One of the greatest benefits of membership in Midwestern Beekeepers Association, are the friendships you make. Recently, Michelle and I and a group of beekeeper friends from Midwestern got together and went through hives, doing inspections, making splits, notching frames of brood for OTS queen rearing, and whatever needed to be done. We had a great time working along fellow beekeepers and friends. We learned from each other, helped fellow beekeepers with the work they needed to do in their hives, and had a great time doing it. It always amazes me, having the same information available to us, to see the different techniques and tips that people develop for themselves in beekeeping. It's a great thing to see! Folks, have you made those associations with others? I hope you have. Come to our meetings and get to know the other members. We encourage you to meet together at your apiary and learn from each other.

I recently spoke to a friend, a new beekeeper. He had ordered a couple packages of bees, and installed them about three weeks ago, put on a feeder and put in a pollen patty. When he went to inspect his hives, he found hive beetles crawling everywhere, and hive beetle larvae on the pollen patties. This time of year, there is plenty of pollen available, so I suggested that he remove the pollen patties and put them in the freezer, because they are a breeding ground for the hive beetles. When you first get these packages of about 10,000 bees, you look at them and think, "WOW, that's a lot of bees," but they are still considered a weak colony. They are unable to fight the onslaught of hive beetle larvae. Take out every frame, one at time, and kill any hive beetle or their larvae and then put in hive beetle traps or Swiffer sheets, or both, to keep them in check. Remember to keep feeding the sugar syrup at a 1:1 ratio (water to sugar.) Always keep pollen patties and sugar patties in the freezer when not using them and they thaw out quickly for use. They can attract bugs!

At the April 23rd meeting, Robert Hughes of Jordy's Honey, gave a presentation on "Swarms and Splits." He demonstrated several different ways of doing splits, to grow your apiary and thereby avoiding any swarming. Robert Hughes also conducted the Q&A session for beginning beekeepers prior to the General Meeting. Robert is one of our area vendors, and you can reach him at (913)-681-5777, when you need to buy more equipment. Many thanks Robert!!

At the May 21st General Meeting, we will have a silent auction and Queen Raffle. We will also have a raffle of the cedar hive made and donated by Kent and Tyler Boss, which includes two hive bodies, two supers, bottom board, top cover, inner cover, and feeder. You can donate items for the auction. It can be bee equipment, food, plants, homemade items, etc., just bring them with you and we will put them in the auction. All proceeds benefit the Youth Scholarship Program. Come join us, it'll be fun!!!

COMING UP

MAY GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017

Bass Pro Shop

Independence MO

2:30 PM

"Youth Scholarship Benefit"

Silent Auction

Complete Hive Raffle

Queen Raffle



Membership dues are \$15 per year for an individual, prorated for new members after July 1st to \$7.50. Family membership available. Membership is open to all people interested in beekeeping and entitles you to our monthly newsletter, free 30 day loan of books from our extensive library, discounts on bee journals, and the right to free (non-commercial advertising in the newsletter plus the opportunity to attend our informative monthly meetings.



midwesternbeekeepers.org



Membership/Renewal



MidwstnBeekprsA



Midwestern Beekeeper's
Association



Midwestern Beekeepers
Association

Members Closed Group



May General Meeting Youth Scholarship Benefit

Sunday, May 21, 2017, Bass Pro Shop at Independence MO



Win a Complete Hive!

Winning ticket will be drawn at the May General Meeting.

Tyler Boss, Youth Scholarship Student, and his family built this cedar hive set to benefit the Midwestern Beekeepers Youth Scholarship Program.

The hive includes: Screened bottom board, 2 deep hive bodies, 2 supers, Feeder and Outer Cover.

Tickets are one for \$3
or two for \$5

Annual Silent Auction

Please plan on bringing your donation of auction items to benefit Youth Scholarship.

Suggested items include, but not limited to:

- ◇ New or gently used bee equipment or tools
- ◇ Vegetable, flower, shrub or tree starts
- ◇ Baked goods
- ◇ Bee related craft items
- ◇ Books or magazines
- ◇ Bottling or extracting equipment
- ◇ Entry to beekeeping class
- ◇ Gift baskets
- ◇ Varietal honey
- ◇ Mead
- ◇ Beeswax items



Photo by Stevens
Bee Company

Win a Queen Bee!

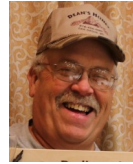
Raffle to win a Queen Bee from various suppliers.

Winning tickets will be drawn at the May General Meeting.

Midwestern Beekeepers Name Tags

Do you have a name tag to wear to our meetings, at farmers markets, or other beekeeping gatherings?

Order yours at any General Meeting. Magnetic bar or pin back clasps available. \$8 each with proceeds going to Youth Scholarship.



Now is the time to plan your entries in the Missouri State Fair. Apiculture entries are due by 5 PM on August 8, 2017. Information about entries can be found at page 2-3 on the premium guide. <http://www.mostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/premium-guide/agriculture.pdf>

Midwestern Beekeepers Association has a rich history of excellence and our own, Jim & Tanya Fisher, have won Grand Champion several times. This could be your year! If you are a member of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association, they are going to match prize money. Volunteers will be needed to work in the Missouri State Beekeepers Association booth. Contact Dean Sanders at (816) 456-4683 for more information



HONEY, INDIVIDUAL CLASSES

1. Cut comb honey in plastic boxes, all sides visible. Three packages of approximately one pound.
2. Round or square section comb honey, three packages, with top and bottom of comb visible.
3. Light bulk comb honey, three 2- or 2 1/2- pound jars
4. Light/amber extracted honey, three 1- pound jars
5. Dark extracted honey, three 1- pound jars
6. Sealed honey, white, brood size frame (9 1/8" x 17")
7. Sealed honey, white, shallow-depth honey frame (5 3/8" or 6 1/4" x 17")
8. Candied honey, three 1-pound jars, produced since last year's Fair.

BEES AND BEESWAX

9. Yellow beeswax, approximately 3-pound cake not over one year old
10. Queen and her bees, with emerging brood, in one-frame observation hive. One 5 3/8" or 6 1/4" frame of honey permitted above bees if desired identification of Race preferred.

APICULTURAL PRODUCTS

11. Art designs in beeswax, 1 to 3 items of molded or sculptured beeswax. Minimum total weight must exceed 1 pound
12. Beeswax Candles, six candles that are either molded or dipped. Minimum length of 10 inches.

HONEY-GROUP COMPETITION

13. Cut comb honey in plastic boxes, all sides visible. Three packages of approximately one pound.
14. Round or square section comb honey, three packages, with top and bottom of comb visible.
15. Light bulk comb honey, three 2- or 2 1/2- pound jars
16. Light/amber extracted honey, three 1- pound jars
17. Dark extracted honey, three 1- pound jars
18. Yellow beeswax, approximately 3- pound cake not over 1 year old



Our library is an extensive resource, including new and older titles plus videos.

Please examine the entire list of titles on our website, then make your request to John, by email or phone call, and he will bring your requested books or videos to the General Meeting.

To make a request, go to:

www.midwesternbeekeepers.org/library/;

- View the list and make your selections
- Include the book number from the left column and title
- Contact John Martin at
- jmartin98@comcast.net or 816-726-6371

You must be a member of Midwestern Beekeepers Association to check out books or videos.

Compound Dissecting Microscope

Here's your chance to see your specimen in a Compound Dissecting Microscope. MBA member, Mark Young, is setting up his microscope at our May General Meeting. Bring your specimen of a bee, or any other thing from the hive, that you want to examine. Thanks Mark, for this opportunity!



Youth Scholarship

By Nita Dietz



Honey Plants

By Luanne Oneal



Congratulations to Allison Bruce on earning her Certificate of Ownership by completing the requirements of the Youth Scholarship program. Picture above from left to right are Allison, Nita Dietz, Youth Scholarship Chair, and Cindy Connell. Jim and Cindy Connell served as Allison's mentors. Thanks to Jim & Cindy.



Will Pryor, 2017 Youth Scholarship winner, is shown above teaching about the different hive parts. Will joined his mentors, Tom and Janice Britz, in presenting "Honey Bees and Beekeeping" at the Cass County Public Library in Harrisonville, MO on April 25th and at the Railroad Days in Pleasant Hill MO on April 29th.

At this writing the air is wonderfully fragrant. Siberian Wallflower and pansies came through winter with a punch, an early garden bright spot. Bee balm (referring to old time use of soothing a bee sting) continues to hold its place in the garden, soon to offer nectar for its namesake. The blueberries, seemingly unbothered by the last cold snap, are laden with blossoms.

We ordered 95 trees from the Dept of Conservation, 50 of which are persimmon. (What was I thinking?) They are now snug in the ground. In a few years the persimmon will bloom late May thru June, an excellent perennial nectar and pollen source. If you are fortunate to have Basswood (American Linden) near your apiary count on a late May-July bloom time, another power packed source for the bees.

Redbud, Serviceberry, Wild Plum and Black Locust are all in the line up to feed your bees.



Siberian Wallflower

Photo by Luanne Oneal.

Community America Credit Union Transactions for the Month of March 2017	
Bank Balance as of February 28, 2016	\$ 13,415.82
Total Receipts Deposited	363.83
Total Expenses Paid (-\$.00 Pending)	-1,666.30
Interest on Savings & Checking Account	.54
Bank Balance as of March 31, 2017	\$12,113.89

A complete report is available under the member's area on the website.



"Dang! Lookit the size of that swarm!"



Basic Beekeeping

By Kyle Day

The most important part of May beekeeping is to make sure your hives are healthy and have enough room. Make sure all hives are queen right, healthy, and well fed to be to maximum population for the upcoming honey flow. The main Missouri honey flow will start mid to late May. If honey production is your goal, then a weak or poor queen should be replaced. Make sure your hive has enough room. I use the rule of 7, if the hive has seven frames of drawn comb and cover the frames, it's time to add your second brood box. If you have your brood boxes on, look for signs that it's time to super. The bees will not take in syrup, you will see white wax everywhere, especially on the top bars. Cells around the nest are expanded out and filled with nectar and or honey. I am a strong believer in queen excluders. Keeping the queen out of the honey supers will make it easier for keeping wax moth out in the fall which will make it easier to store and less of a mess later. Also it will be easier to extract honey because you will not be able to extract frames with any bee larvae or brood. If you have a strong flow and a strong hive you can add two supers of drawn comb. If hives are not strong, the flow isn't as strong as usual, or your using new foundation, only super one box at a time to let the bees work with only that box. According to research, there is no difference between bottom supering and top supering. But all beekeepers have their own way of doing things and you will find your own.

Keep your eyes peeled and look for hive beetles, They seem to be a lot worse than past years. Watch your weaker hives for hive beetle larva and adult hive beetles. Use beetle traps or put unscented Swiffer pads on top of the top bars and the beetles will get stuck and not be able to get out. Before I super my hives, I like to check my varroa mite numbers and treat or split to break the varroa mite cycle.

Swarming always comes along with the month of May. Like the old saying "A swarm in May is worth a bale of hay." If your hives are strong you can split and still have a good hive to over winter. Look for local queens for sale or if you are making your own queens, I would like to suggest looking into OTS (On the Spot) Queen rearing. It is easy for beginners and doesn't take a lot of hives and it will help you learn about Queen Rearing and the breeding cycles of queens. Also I like to keep an extra box with old comb and some foundation around for swarm calls. You can also make a swarm trap by using a box with old comb, foundation and a top and bottom. Reduce the entrance to keep mice out and adding some lemongrass oil every couple weeks wouldn't hurt to make the box more attractive. Three things create the swarm impulse. 1. Decrease in Queen Pheromone production and distribution inside the hive. 2. Not enough space in the brood boxes. 3 Nectar sources crowd the brood nest, making them go to the bottom combs because they like to put honey above the nest.

Like always, anyone who needs help or has any questions, can contact me directly at kyle.day.1999@gmail.com or contact any of the Midwestern board members. Happy Beekeeping to All.

Welcome New Members

By Terry Wright



Robert Scott
Oak Grove MO
Terry Carter
Freeman MO
Christopher M. Turner
Kansas City MO
David Angotti
Lee's Summit MO
Russell Correll
Kansas City MO
Samantha Mixan
Kansas City MO
Donna Batenhamer
Warrensburg MO
Sherry Pils
Kansas City MO
Bruce Baker
Leawood KS
Ryan & Shakinah Duncan
Kansas City MO
J. David Martin
Belton MO



Missouri State Beekeepers Association have been working hard to provide good, informative information to Missouri Beekeepers. Check out their revised website at <https://mobeekkeepers.com/>

Conferences & Events

June 3, 2017

Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers
2017 Fun Day
Douglas Fair Grounds
www.nekba.org



June 4, 2017

Heartland Beekeeping Partnership
A Day With Jennifer Berry
Powell Garden's
www.powellgardens.org



June 10, 2017

Texas Beekeepers Association
2017 Summer Clinic
Keynote Randy Oliver
Univ. of Texas at Arlington TX
www.texasbeekeepers.org



July 13-15, 2017

Heartland Apicultural Society
Annual Meeting
Evansville, Indiana
www.heartlandbees.org



August 6, 2017

Midwestern Beekeepers
Annual Picnic
Fleming Park Meeting Hall
Fleming Park, Blue Springs MO



August 10-20, 2017

Missouri State Fair
Sedalia, Missouri
www.mostatefair.com

Contact Dean Sanders (816) 456-4683 to volunteer to work the Missouri State Beekeepers Association booth



October 27-28, 2017
Missouri State Beekeepers Assoc
Fall Conference
Springfield, MO

www.mobeekeepers.com



Fall 2017, Date TBD
Midwestern Beekeepers Assoc.

Beginning Beekeepers Workshop
Watch for Details



Sep. 8-12-2019

46th Apimondia
International
Apicultural
Congress



Montreal Canada

www.apimondia2019mtl.com/

Temporary Break for USDA Disease Diagnostic Service

Due to a staffing crisis, the USDA-ARS Bee Disease Diagnostic Service in Beltsville, MD will be on hiatus, effective immediately. The University of Maryland Bee Lab has graciously supported M. Samuel Abban as he leads this 100-year old program, but Samuel is now needed fulltime for a critical University project. Every effort is being made to finalize the hiring of Samuel as a USDA employee so that he can continue this program. Please do not submit new samples until further notice. Samples in hand will be held in cold storage pending our ability to staff this program. In the meantime, the Bee Informed Partnership offers a paid service for analyzing colony loss samples, <https://beeinformed.org/programs/emergency-response-kits-2/>. We are extremely sorry for this disruption and look forward to continuing this program as part of USDA-ARS efforts to help beekeepers. Please contact us regarding urgent needs. Jay Evans, Research Leader, USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory, Beltsville, MD 20705 jay.evans@ars.usda.gov, 301-504-5143.



Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers 2017 Funday

Saturday, June 3rd 2017--Registration:7:30-8:30--Program:8:30-5:00

Douglas County Fairgrounds, 2110 Harper St., Lawrence KS

Fee includes Lunch, Beverages, Snacks & Homemade Honey Ice Cream and a Full Day of Fun!

Bring your hat and veil or beesuit-we'll have workshops at beehives!

Cost: \$40.00 per person for those Pre-registered, \$50 at the door

Children under 5 free, ages 6-18 \$17.50 for those preregistered \$20 at the door

Pre-Register by May 22ⁿ to be in a drawing to get your registration refunded

To register online visit our website at WWW.NEKBA.ORG

For information contact Becky Tipton at 785-484-3710 or bstbees@embargmail.com

Guest Speakers

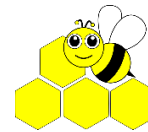
Jennifer Berry M.S.,2000, University of Georgia, Entomology. For the past 17 years, Jennifer Berry has been the Apicultural Research Professional and Lab Manager for the University of Georgia Honey Bee Program. Her research objectives have focused on improving honey bee health, the sub-lethal effects of pesticides on beneficial insects and IPM techniques for var-roa and small hive beetle control.

Scott Debnam, a graduate of the University of Montana Wildlife Biology program and has 14 years of experience managing the research colonies for the University. His research focuses on the movement of pollinators through the environment and the ecological patterns that influence their plant choices.

Dr. Judy We-Smart, *Entomology Extension Specialist University of Nebraska, Lincoln* whose area of interest was sub lethal effects of neonicotinyl insecticides on honey bee and bumble bee queens and colony development. She rocks!

Dr. Marion Ellis, a retired professor of entomology and researcher from the **University of Nebraska Lincoln**, will be a feature speaker. We love him!

Dr. Chip Taylor—the swarm king! He is the Founder and Director of Monarch Watch; Professor Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS



Swarm Demo with Dr. Chip Taylor!

Hands-on workshop and presentations all day!

Vendors:

Mann Lake Supply

Brushy Mountain

Dadant and Sons-If you wish to preorder do so by the end of May, ask for -Arlyn or Gina. 217-847-3324

Jody's Honey, Robert Hughes 913-681-5777

Heartland Honey, Cecil Sweeney, 913-856-8356

Douglas County Master Gardeners

Flower & Plant Sale Dreher Bldg. Patio

Door Prizes: The swarm from the swarm demonstration will be given away in a single hive. There will be door prizes from supply dealers. You must be present to win and you must fill out an evaluation form to win any door prizes.

Motels that are in Lawrence:

Best Western, 2309 Iowa, 785-843-9100

Hampton Inn, 2300 W. 6th, 785-841-4994

**A Silent Auction will be held to benefit the
NEKBA Scholarship Program
Donations of auction items are appreciated!**

**Program & Speakers Subject to Change
NEKBA.org visit our website to register**

Heartland Beekeeping Partnership
A Day with Jennifer Berry, University of GA
2017 Registration Form
Powell Gardens, Kansas City's Botanical Gardens
1609 N.W. US Highway 50, Kingsville, MO 64061

On- line Registration @ www.powellgardens.org Linda @ (816) 697-2600 ext. 306

Sunday, June 4, 2017, 12:30-5:00 @ Powell Gardens, Kingsville, MO (816) 697-2600
(PRINT)

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____
PHONE _____
Email address _____
Club or association affiliation _____
How did you learn about this class? _____
How many years beekeeping? _____ How many colonies? _____
Beekeeping Focus: Hobby__Pollination__Honey__Products__Breeding__Nucs__Queens__Comb__Other?__

*The registration fee is per person; additional people in the family may attend for an additional \$45.00.
Fees include lectures, hands-on hive inspections, refreshments, and garden admittance
• Beekeeping Protective-wear is **MANDATORY** in the Apiary

Pre-registration Required to Guarantee Your Spot

(Class Limited to 50)

Course Registration Fees:

Primary Registrant Name: _____ \$45.00 _____

*Additional Family members who will be attending @ \$45.00/each

Name: _____ \$45.00 _____

Name: _____ \$45.00 _____

After May 26th add \$10.00 per registrant X _____ Sub-Total \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Registrations must be postmarked by May 26th to receive the pre-registration price.

Make checks payable to: Powell Gardens

On line Registration @ www.powellgardens.org or call Linda (816) 697-2600 ext. 306

or

Mail Registrations to:

Cathy Misko
321 SW 58 Hwy
Centerview, MO 64019

For more information

Cathy Misko (660) 656-3485 or Bruce Bird (573) 308-4403
cathymisko@earthlink.net birdb1@mac.com

Helpful Hints: (Arrive early to enjoy the gardens; bring notebook, water bottle, and protective-wear inside with you.)

Part 3, 2017 North American Beekeeping Federation Conference, Galveston Texas

By Cathy Misko, Heartland Beekeeping Partnership

Saving "In the Classroom with Dr. Jerry Hays" for a later date, this final account of this year's NABFC is the most saucy and filled with great emotion!

Last year at this national conference the focus was on varroa mite and how it was decimating the nation's honey bees...this year the varroa was flagged again but intense focus was obviously on nutrition...the lack of diverse forage and the chemical adultery of forage and water.

I remember six years ago, the first time I saw Dr. Dennis VanEngelsdorp get up in front of ABF to announce the Bee Informed Partnership and invited all of us to connect and send data...again he highly recommends everyone to continue to send data and not lose heart. It takes years to see trends. BIP is a data driven organization to gather big data, process it, and try to utilize the data to come to conclusions or to find trends worth investigating further. It is not necessarily "research" identifying variables but important regardless. It can point to where we need to take a closer look and point to various options. Noted trends: First winter losses were noted but now see summer losses...beekeepers who split experience fewer losses, comb culling and freezing of comb experience fewer losses, and fewer losses with thymol use and no nosema treatment. Dennis unveiled an interesting study addressing "mite bombs." Bees from a dying varroa infested hive were painted and were found in hives 2 miles away. This implicated that bees can carry varroa to other hives giving much thought to treatments versus management of colonies.

Ongoing trends comparing varroa treatment versus "management," studies found that, during drought, pesticides are concentrated in pollen (especially sunflowers) and bee mortality increases.

With technically savvy beekeepers...Jame Wilks presented "Hive Tracks" to benefit beekeepers and to share data locally and regionally giving group assessments. Public sharing is optimal. Such data could uncover new insight and learning from "hindsight."

Jumping over to Germany, Dr. Lullmann share data covering honey adulteration. It was shocking to me to learn that 84% of tested honey contained carcinogenic Glyphosate (Round-up) and there is no concentration limit for US honey! We consumers expect clean honey. Also found in honey are compounds used to treat AFB, Nosema, fungicides, and coumaphos for mite treatments. Honey adulteration increased in 2016 with 10% added sugar cane and caramel coloring. Honey dew from aphids is distinguished as "natural!"

Dr. Murphy, FDA Center for Vet Medicine, MD, addressed the new federal vet mandate "Medicated Feed." Vets must be licensed to practice, have a relationship with beekeeper, follow label use unless ex-label approved and requires prescription for Oxytetracycline, Tylosin, Lincomycin medications-Fumagillin is not on the scrip list. Beekeeper/Vet accessibility and education is to be organized via states.

Dr. Bob Danka shared Frank Rinkevich's- toxicologist USDA/ Honey bee research from Baton Rouge, LA. Unfortunately out of 500 colonies they lost 100 in the floods. He addressed the question: do bee strains have different responses to pesticides? Yes...Italians appear to be the most sensitive...Carniolans are better, and Russians the most resistant to pesticides. High priority is still given to the Russian Breeding Program... with VSH (1998-2008) John Harbo line, and (2008-2014) Pol-line genetics. Work is focused on refining the lines...to breed better bees and fix genetics. Keeping on the subject of varroa resistance, Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda, Clemson University, SC, shared her work with the Purdue Ankle Bitters genetics and breeding for varroa resistance. She confirmed that chemical applications increase varroa resistance, there is synergism between chemical interactions, chemicals effect drones and queens adversely, rotation and timing of chemical applications must be adhered to, and bees must detoxify chemicals within their body. All this encourages continued genetic focus, not only importance of colony survival but evidence of bees chewing mites. Such evidence can help us make decisions on which genetics to pass on. She likes to use the app on her iphone to enlarge pictures of mite which is something we all can also do. One may see varroa with bites taken out of it including missing legs. How fast a bee responds to trying to groom a mite off that has hitched itself to the bee is also important. If within a few seconds...great. If the bee is lax and it take minutes...it is not hygienic enough. Rapid grooming has shown genetic markers that can be measured. The gene responsible is the same gene (Neurexin) found in mammals with repetitive behavior. In humans this gene is linked to autism...very interesting!

It was a treat to hear insect neuroscientist Dr. Geraldine Wright, UK, again. She reported her results "Impact of Neonicotinoid Pesticides on Behavior, Learning, and Memory of Bees." Interesting and not reassuring! Incredibly she placed minute harnesses on bees and showed videos of the experiments using sublethal doses of neonics. It was determined that bees do not prefer neonic tainted nectar because of taste but because it acts as a drug. The bees will eat, become sick from it, eat less, but still go back for more. Insight directs that they do not detect or are repealed by the neonic toxin like they might be with naturally occurring toxins in plants such as almond, monkshood, foxglove, rhodium, and larkspur. They actually choose to drink the neonic instead of plain sucrose. It was proven that they did not "taste" the neonic and it was working as a poison and a drug; Dr. Wright gave reference to Israeli research noting that neonics increase dopamine in the honey bees' nervous system therefore seeming more "rewarding."

In 2011, I first met Laurie Davis Adams (Pollinator Partnership) when she was promoting the federal Highway Bee Act. How wonderful to see H.R. 2738 finally was passed last year to increase natives along highways, decrease mowing, and plant for pollinators. The Bee Act is a start that each State could build on. PP has a big tent approach representing 120 organizations, 3 countries, and a 20 year history. They have a new program "Certified Bee Friendly Farming" and countless brochures to download and educational data. <http://www.pollinator.org/>

Michelle Colopy (Pollinator Stewardship Council), encouraged "We need to work together for we are all experiencing the same thing." She stressed bee kill reporting; you can find instructions and information @ <http://pollinatorstewardship.org/>



Dr. Jerry Pettis, Retired, USDA Beltsville, MD Bee Lab, received a 30 year Service Appreciation Award. Photo by Cathy Misko.

The most moving presentation was given by Dr. Jerry Pettis, Entomologist, Zurich, Is Secondhand Smoke Killing the Bees? Jerry took us through his past 30 years of intensely working with and researching the honey bees in the US, UN, and nationally. He recently retired "but not expired" from head of USDA Beltsville, MD Bee Lab. After giving "approved congressional reports" on honey bee research he was asked off the cuff his personal thoughts on "why the bees were dying"...he honestly answered "Pesticides." After his Congressional testimony, he was abruptly asked to step down from the USDA...apparently "he angered people downtown (DC)" he was told.

Dr. Pettis believes that 10% honey bee colony loss is due to management and weather, 10% is due to varroa mites, and the other 10% plus loss that has pushed us over the edge is driven by agricultural pesticides (including beekeeper applied miticides) along with adulterated forage and monocrops. Dr. Pettis cited numerous references, admitted more research money is needed, that money and votes drive Washington DC, and explained how "second hand smoke is killing the bees" via the word obfuscate: to confuse, bewilder, make obscure, unclear, to confuse a problem with extraneous information and to "attack the messenger or try to discredit." Adding in one word "obfuscate," he said the

tobacco industry was able to suppress the truth of the harmful effects of tobacco and likewise this word is being used to obscure the truth about pesticides harming pollinators.

Giving encouragement, Pettis praised the the built-in buffer that bees tend to have, their super organism resilience. Positive effects show with applied change. He discouraged the prophylactic treatment of every field and flagged Jonathan Lundgren's <http://bluedasher.farm> and Marla Spivak's directions that we should not be "blanket treating" fields, lawns, but spot treating when needed.

He congratulated Swiss work showing dramatic effects, the UN's Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) <http://www.ipbes.net/> and the backs and wallets of beekeepers, stating such has prevented a pollination crisis. David Hackenburg presented a 30 year Service Appreciation Award to Dr. Pettis; with tears of gratitude Jerry proclaimed. "it is the love of bees and the love of people that make it worth going out...."

June 4, 2017 "A Day with Jennifer Berry," Univ. of GA. at Powell Gardens, Kingsville. Sponsored by Heartland Beekeeping Partnership. Registration limited to 50 due to "Hands-On" in the Apiary.

Subjects slated to be covered are

- Keeping Bees Alive Part 1 and Part 2, Jennifer Berry
- Queen Rearing on a Small Scale (Including Genetics), Jennifer Berry
- Oxalic Acid: Another Potential Method for Varroa Control, Demo / Inspections by Jennifer Berry

(Alternate "hands-on" Apiary Session: Mark Queens, Clip Wings, Take Mite Samples)

Powell Gardens unveils their new website April 25th with on-line registration, otherwise Mail-in registration to Cathy Misko (660) 656-3485

Market Place

MEMBERS OF MIDWESTERN BEE-KEEPERS ASSOCIATION CAN ADVERTISE FOR FREE IN THE NEWS-LETTER! COMMERCIAL VENDORS MAY ADVERTISE FOR \$25 PER YEAR PLUS YOUR ANNUAL OR LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP. CONTACT THE EDITOR TO PLACE YOUR AD.



Crooked Hill Beekeeping, LLC.

Bill and Tammy George

19133 LIV 355

Chillicothe, MO 64601

(660)214-0132

www.chbeekeeping.com



Jim Fisher 816-918-6648

Do you need your honey supers extracted? Contact Jim for custom extracting.



Fisher's Bee Supplies

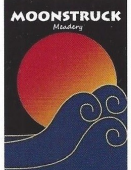
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Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney

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joli@heartlandhoney.com



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Address _____	Secretary's Name <u>Wesley Johnston, Treasurer</u>
Address _____	Address <u>401 NW Heady Avenue</u>
City, State, Zip _____	Address _____
Phone _____	City, State, Zip <u>Ferrelview, MO 64163</u>
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Terry Wright
9203 South Litchford
Grain Valley MO 64029

Non-Profit Organization

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General Meeting
Sunday, May 21, 2017
Bass Pro Shop
Independence MO
2:30 PM

*In case of inclement weather on
the day of a meeting, please check
our website, Facebook, or call an
officer.*

Midwestern Beekeepers Association 2017 Calendar

June 18, 2017	General Meeting at Bass Pro, 2:30 pm
July 16, 2017	General Meeting at Bass Pro, 2:30 pm
August 6, 2017	Picnic, Fleming Park, Blue Springs MO
September 17, 2017	General Meeting at Bass Pro, 2:30 pm
October 15, 2017	General Meeting at Bass Pro, 2:30 pm
November 19, 2017	General Meeting at Bass Pro, 2:30 pm
December, 2017	Christmas Social, TBD