

October 2017 Volume 70 👄 Number 9



October General Meeting Sunday, October 15, 2017 Bass Pro Shop at Independence MO 1:30 PM Executive Board Meeting 2:00 PM Q&A Session for Beginning Beekeepers 2:30 PM General Meeting Daphne Mayes Laboratory Coordinator University of Kansas "Buzz About Bees"



American Royal School Tours, September 26th-29th



Pictured from left to right are: Bob Williams, Russell Correll, Jacob Runyon, Ian Parrish (standing,) Will Pryor and Phil Duncan. Not pictured: Tom Britz, Jamie Runyon, Jeff Kaestner and Jolene Hallam. Many thanks!





Hi Folks, at our September General Meeting, Clayton Lee, President of Missouri State Beekeepers, presented "Fall Management," where he addressed issues such as, combining weaker hives with stronger ones, checking mite loads and treatment options, mouse guards, adequate ventilation and food stores to get your bees through the winter. Thank you Clayton Lee!! Thanks also to Wes Johnston for hosting the Q&A session for the beginning beekeepers. We also had several folks volunteer for positions on the board for our upcoming election, but we could use a few more folks to step up and volunteer for open positions. If you would like to help, please contact Ralph Dickinson at rcd11@sbcglobal.net or James Reeves at jv5758@sbcglobal.net. Come join us, it will be fun!!!



midwesternbeekeepers.org

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Membership/Renewal



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Midwestern Beekeeper's Association Midwestern Beekeepers Association Members Closed Group

Welcome New Members By Terry Wright



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Basic Beekeeping By Kyle Day

Winter is coming, all final preparations for winter should be complete by the end of this month. This is probably your last opportunity to do things you didn't get to or things forgotten. So that means you need to get moving fast to complete: balancing existing honey stores between healthy hives, feeding to top off winter storage targets, setting up wind blocks or moving the apiary to a more sheltered winter location (or permanent sheltered location), treating for pests and disease (mites and small hive beetles, nosema, natural treatments, etc.), removing surplus honey for extraction if not done (you can also keep these frames in the freezer in case you need to feed bees this winter and early spring,) and combine nucs or weak hives or preparing them to winter in groups or on stronger colonies. Take your losses now and you can go into spring with stronger colonies.

In nature, bee comb starts at the top of the hive. The queen immediately takes to laying eggs and the nest is formed, gradually filling the empty hive as the nest expands and the colony grows in numbers. This first comb becomes darker as more bees get raised. As the year goes on, the bees move downward and surplus honey is stored above the nest. Once the nest reaches the lower parts of the comb, if nectar is still coming in, the hive will swarm to reduce the numbers going forward. The nest then moves up during the winter, back onto this old dark comb. Most of you probably know this, but I wanted to say it here because there is strong opinion that the honey stores you leave on your hive for winter should be in dark comb. The opinion is that the bees fair better in their winter cluster on dark comb. I do not know of any study that suggests this is true, but I have heard it from many experienced beekeepers. Applying this opinion to the natural progression of a colony in a tree makes some sense. Regardless, it's important to make sure your brood boxes are packed full of honey for winter.

Protect your drawn comb until freezing weather arrives. Comb that has never had brood raised in it can be kept stacked separately from dark comb without much protection. However, dark comb needs more protection. Moth crystals (Para dichlorobenzene) are typically used for this purpose. Stack supers (or brood boxes), and put crystals on a piece of paper on top of every 5th super, or so. Then place a lid on top. Vapors kill moths and larvae, but not eggs. You have to refresh crystals once they have evaporated, but if freezing weather has hit you are good till next summer. Another method is freezing the box in a freezer for several days to kill eggs, and then wrapping it tightly in heavy plastic bags. It can take at least 48 hours to kill the eggs so adding another day is good insurance. A good chest freezer works well for this.

Inspections should become less in-depth as the month moves forward. You do not want to crack the propolis seals between boxes late into the fall without a good reason to do so. Open the top to take a quick look at the top box to ensure you have adequate stores of honey.

Rebecca Troyer Weatherby Lake MO

Stan Slaughter & Linda Chubbuck Lees Summit MO

> Bill Adamo Kearney MO

Rod Wolfe Gladstone MO

Everett Weinkauff Belton MO



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



Thank you to Ralph Dickinson and James Reeves for serving on the Nominating Committee for the 2018 Midwestern Beekeepers Association Officers and Committee Chairs. They will be reporting their nominations at the October meeting.

We still need some folks to step up to serve. You can contact Ralph at <u>rcd11@sbcglobal.net</u> or James at <u>jv5758@sbcglobal.net</u>. Thanks to those folks who have already volunteered. You should already know your queen is alive by the first of the month and that there are plenty of new bees coming on. If not, you need to find a mated queen or combine this hive before cold weather sets in.

After that, trust in the bees to do what they do and wait. I look into the tops of my hives all winter, so that seal is pretty much compromised, but as long as the bees are down and clustered under the honey you will be where you want to be with that hive. I limit my open top inspections to maybe once a month (warmest, windless day I can find) until I can see the cluster at the top of the hive. I put a shim on top of all of my hives in October and let the bees glue that in. That way when I break the top seal, it is never going to be at eye level with the cluster, so wind drafts from that broken seal will never blow directly on the cluster, and I use it for feeding if I need to feed during the winter. Lids can be blown off in a wind, so secure them down with a rock or strap. I have wrapped hives in the past, but not every year. I cannot say for sure whether it is worth it or not, but you do not want to wrap before no-fly weather comes in. If you wrap your hives, you need to make sure you have plenty of ventilation, and keep track of temperatures all winter long.

Lastly, start thinking about ordering more equipment and look into books to read for these winter months to prepare for next season. Also, the Missouri State Beekeepers Association will be having the fall conference at the end of the month in Springfield. I highly suggest going to this, it is a great way to not only meet others from across the state, but a great way to see what others are doing and attend classes taught by top notch beekeepers. As always if you need advice or have any questions you can contact me at kyle.day.1999@gmail.com. I hope to see you at Missouri State Beekeepers conference.

October Quick Tips List

- Sugar syrup should be 2 parts sugars, 1 part water.
- 60 to 90 lbs. of honey (or syrup) in storage is the rule of thumb for the average two deep box (3 mediums) hive here in Missouri.
- Add entrance reducers and or mouse guards for your entrances. Hives should be exposed to the sun with entrances facing away from prevailing winds.
- If you have solid Bottom Boards, your hives should slope slightly toward the entrance to allow excess water to drain out. Insure you have good ventilation but not direct drafts from prevailing winds.
- Upper ventilation holes to allow humid air to flow out helps with the bees regulating their environment.
- A location that is always humid, like a low area next to a stream, is not a great location for hives in the winter, even if it is a good shelter from the winds.





Did you know that we have an extensive lending library avail-

able to our members? The list of titles is on our website and once you make your selection known to John, he will bring your books to the next General Meeting. You will return the borrowed books to John at the following General Meeting. Here's what you do:

Please examine the entire list of titles on our website, make your request to John by email or phone call, then 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 <u>jmartin98@comcast.net</u> or 816 -726-6371

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



Market Place



Honey Plants By Luanne Oneal

Crooked Hill Beekeeping, LLC.

Bill and Tammy George 19133 LIV 355 Chillicothe, MO 64601 (660)214-0132

www.chbeekeeping.com

Open by appointment most days. Store is located on our farm; early, late and weekend hours are available.

Packaged bees and NUCs available in the spring. Locally manufactured high quality woodenware in stock.

We offer a complete line of beekeeping supplies and equipment. Including: Woodenware (assembly and painting available), frames, foundation, smokers, tools, bee suits, Bug Bafflers, veils, books, feed supplements, honey containers, extracting equipment, NUC boxes, materials to build your own hives.

Jordy's Honey

Robert Hughes 12333 Wedd Street Overland Park, KS 66213 913-681-5777

www.beekeepers.com

Monday through Friday 8 am to 6pm Weekends by appointment.

Please call in advance so we can have your supplies ready when you arrive. We carry a full line of beekeeping supplies. Bee hives, supers, frames, foundation, honey containers, smokers, beekeeping books, queens, packaged bees and much more.



Jim Fisher 816-918-6648

Do you need your honey supers extracted? Contact Jim for

custom extracting. Midwestern Beekeepers Association Page 4 A few important blossoms to wrap up the season:

Aster: a reasonable source of both pollen & nectar. The pollen is yellow in color.

Golden rod: a very important food source, pollen pellets will be dark yellow.

White snakeroot: creamy-white pollen pellets. This blossom is another good source of both pollen and nectar. Snakeroot is poisonous to cattle.

2 helpful resources for pollen, nectar and bloom time information are <u>Garden Plants for Honey Bees</u> by Peter Lindtner and <u>Missouri Wildflow-ers</u>.



Nothing goes to waste....

Photo by Luanne Oneal



Community America Credit Unio for the Month of Augus	t 2017
Bank Balance as of July 31, 2017	\$ 10,271.09
Total Receipts Deposited	156.98
Total Expenses Paid (-\$ 0 Pending)	-919.85
Interest on Savings & Checking Account	.41
Bank Balance as of August 31, 2017	\$ 9,508.63

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

Youth Scholarship **By Nita Dietz**



Conferences & Events

Applications are now being accepted for the 2018 Youth Scholarship Program. Applications must be postmarked by November 30th, 2017. The scholarships will be awarded following the January 2018 General Meeting. Applications may be downloaded here: <u>http://</u> www.midwesternbeekeepers.org/youth-scholarship-2.

To be eligible, the applicant must:

- Be between the ages of 10 and 18 by February 1st of the Award Year.
- Be a resident of Missouri.
- Be currently enrolled in public, private, or home school.
- Have permission to apply from a parent or guardian.
- Have no immediate family members who are currently beekeepers.

There are two awards that may be given:

The Youth Scholarship Award

- A two-year MBA membership.
- A beginning beekeeper seminar and textbook
- A complete set of woodenware for a beehive.
- A nucleus colony or package of bees for the hive.
- Basic beekeeping gear: hat, veil, gloves, hive tool, and bee smoker.
- Mentoring by a MBA member for one year.

The Apis Award

- A MBA membership.
- A beginning beekeeper seminar and textbook.
- Mentorship sessions in an apiary with a beekeeper.

We encourage you to tell someone you know who may have an interest in the Youth Scholarship Program and to consider being a mentor to one of our Youth Scholarship students.

Beekeepers October 28, 2017 **Midwestern Beekeepers** Fall Beginning Beekeeping Class Fleming Park, Blue Springs MO www.midwesternbeekeepers.org





October 27-28, 2017 Missouri State **Beekeepers Assoc Fall Conference** Springfield, MO www.mostatebeekeepers.org

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January 9-13, 2018 2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Trade Show **Grand Sierra Resort** Reno, Nevada







http://www.heartlandbees.org/







Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:		
Email for Newsletter:		

Pre-Registration Required—Class Size Limited Registration Closed When Class Is Filled or By October 21, 2017

Class Fee, Lunch,

& Midwestern Beekeepers Association One Year Membership

Membership is open to all people interested in beekeeping and entitles you to our monthly newsletter, free 30day 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.

Current Midwestern Association Members: Class Fee & Lunch:

\$45 ea _____

Make Checks Payable to: <u>Midwestern Beekeepers Association</u> Mail registration form and fees to: Cindy Connell 365 SW 1081 Holden MO 64040

For More Information, call Bob Williams at (816) 331-6634 or Janice Britz at (816) 419-1327 http://www.midwesternbeekeepers.org

\$55 ea

Midwestern Beekeepers at the American Royal School Tours



L-R: Jeff Kaestner, Jolene Hallam



L-R: Russell Correll, Ian Parrish, Will Pryor



L-R: Bob Williams, Jamie Runyon, Ian Parrish, Tom Britz



Russell Correll





L-R: Jacob Runyon, Ian Parrish, Will Pryor, Phil Duncan



L-R: Ian Parrish, Jacob Runyon, Jamie Runyon, Russell Correll, Bob Willliams.





L-R: Jamie Runyon, Ian Parrish, Tom Britz, Will Pryor, Phil Duncan



Jolene Hallam



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Terry Wright 9203 South Litchford Grain Valley MO 64029

> General Meeting Sunday, October 15, 2017 Bass Pro Shop Independence MO 2:00 PM Q&A Session for Beginning Beekeepers 2:30 PM General Meeting In case of inclement weather on the day of a meeting, please check our website, Facebook, or call an officer.

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.

Members of Midwestern Beekeepers Association can advertise for free in the newsletter! Commercial Vendors may advertise for \$25 per year plus your annual or lifetime membership. Contact the editor to place your ad.

Midwestern Beekeepers Association 2017 CalendarNovember 19, 2017General Meeting at Bass Pro, 2:30 pmDecember 17, 2017Christmas Social