

THE BEE LINE

**THE BEE LINE IS THE
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF THE MIDWESTERN
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION**

VOLUME 67 • NUMBER 9

**Membership dues are \$15
per year. (Jan 1 – Dec 31)**

**New members joining after July
1 may do so for \$7.50**

**We also encourage our members
to join the Missouri State
Beekeepers Association for \$15
per year.**

**Membership is open to all
people interested in
beekeeping and entitles you
to:**

- **Monthly Newsletter**
- **Free 30-day loan of
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- **Discounts on Bee Journals**
- **Right to free (non-
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- **Monthly Meetings**

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www.midwesternbeekeepers.org

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Association* on Facebook**

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**In case of inclement weather on
the day of a meeting, please
check one of the above or call
an officer.**

Wisps of Smoke

By Cathy Misko

Lovin it! It is October and color is blooming everywhere!

Thanks to Shannon Holcomb for trekking from St. Joseph to share the swarming complexity. It is clear that beekeepers are challenged to outwit and manage the powerful honey bee swarming instinct!! Thank you Stuart Dietz for leading the Nuc Initiative; many are looking forward to successfully raise nucs. Keep your eyes on our website for “special” informative meeting updates. Thanks to Phill Levi for presenting “The Stars of the Show” to the Bayer Corp. in order to teach the importance of protecting the honey bee. Thank you to Tom O’Neill who worked miracles single handedly manning an educational booth with the Observation Hive, bee games, stamps, and selling honey at the Warrensburg Veteran’s Appreciation Day!

Represented by Peter Fish, Shanna Gretzinger, Ann McDonough, Riley and Jolene Taranto, and myself, *Midwestern* presented an Interactive Educational Beekeeping Program to over 4,000 school children at the American Royal. We taught the importance of the honey bee, bee biology, pollination, demonstrated beekeeping equipment, and many paraded away modeling 1, 2, 3, and even more honey bee stamps! What a treat to invest in others! Please consider volunteering for the Educational Outreach Team.

Many have finalized their honey extraction with various results. Some have had a bumper crop like no other, some were left envious for more honey, and others were

grateful to have healthy bees while learning of their fantastic nature all the while! We work with nature and none of our tomorrows promised. Some things we can control, some we cannot. Still, we plan on, work hard, and can find a silver lining somewhere. I have found that some bee yards bring in more honey than others, I learned that entrance reducers on nucs should be applied when the spigot of the honey flow is turned off to prevent robbing, and newly established colonies from package bees can put up a decent amount of honey their first year when the management and conditions are right!

Small Hive Beetle Observation: This year I kept the honey house warm and with a dehumidifier going, it seemed to make a difference. It is reported that humidity less than 50% will help discourage small hive beetles in the honey house. I did not see large numbers of small hive beetles when I pulled supers but I did notice them in the hives afterwards. After returning supers to the hives to get “cleaned out” small hive beetles moved into the supers. I was faced with closing them up for storage yet distressed thinking about the little devils. I began to bang on the sides of the supers to “chase” bee stragglers out and behold...small hive beetles began to run up on the top bars with the vibrations. Quickly I smashed a couple dozen before they took flight!!! Hmmm...I was then a smiling beekeeper as I loaded in my (PDB) paradichlorobenzene crystals for protective super storage. Wishing that I took Andy Nowachek’s advice to stock up, I have run out of Beetle Blasters. I fill 1/8 inch of vegetable

Continued on next page



Precautions Against the Spread of Brood Diseases According to Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville, MD www.ars.usda.gov

- Keep the apiary clean and tidy. Do not throw propolis or burr comb on the ground where it may be robbed. Place it in a suitable container and remove from the apiary.
- Do not buy colonies of bees except from disease-free apiaries.
- Do not accept swarms of unknown origin.
- Do not buy old combs without knowing the disease history.
- Disinfect secondhand equipment before use.
- Do not feed honey or pollen from doubtful sources.
- If a colony dies, close the hive pending an examination to prevent remaining stores from being robbed.
- Do not exchange brood or super combs unless they are from disease-free colonies.
- Prevent robbing at all times.
- Minimize drifting as much as possible.
- Inspect your own colonies for disease; do not wait for someone else to do it for you. Always keep a careful watch for signs of disease. If you see suspicious signs of diseases, call upon your apiary inspector for advice and assistance.



oil in them to drown the beetles but not too much that oil spills out when hives are tilted forward.

I locate Blasters at the corners of the brood boxes and then move them inward when the bees cluster. Hive beetles are known to “over winter” in the cluster.

● ● ●
Best treatment:
Strong hives and sunshine
 ● ● ●

The devils have forced me to buy a small chest freezer just to kill their eggs and protect brood comb. Colonies seem heavy with honey stores and I anticipate combining weak colonies with less than 15 frames covered by bees with strong colonies and then split them back out in the spring. Bees NEED ventilation ALL year long and it seems to be a common question about what does one do with ventilation after the supers are pulled. The slot in the inner cover goes up for the winter and with the telescoping cover pushed forward, a small 3/8 wedge is appropriate under the inner cover for the winter so to be used conjointly as an upper entrance.

I have had calls concerning testing bees for disease. For those with questionable loss, I suggest to first freeze your bee samples so to avoid decay if you possibly might want to send them off. Please visit Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville, MD for instructions.

http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/site_main.htm?modecode=12-45-33-00

Beekeepers who attended our beginning beekeeping workshop received complimentary membership to the MO State Beekeeper’s Assn. I encourage you take advantage of continuing education at the Mo State Fall Conference Oct. 24-25.

Topics include: Queen Rearing, Natural Beekeeping, Healthy Hives, and Honey Yields. Major beekeeping vendors will be present.

Promotional Video to the MSBA Fall Conference in Jefferson City, MO
http://mostatebeekeepers.org/vid_promo/

I am eager to learn new skills on *Fall Management* and to hear your ideas and advice during our October *Open Mic Meeting*.

For you that have “been there and done that...” please join us and pass on your expertise. We are a “Hive of Folks” and I look forward to seeing you!

Join us at 6:00 pm for set up and networking!!!!



Welcome New Members!

*Celissa Opfer,
Holden MO*

*Richard Estes,
Kansas City MO*

*Shawna Gretzinger,
Kansas City MO*

*Anna Autry,
Norborne MO*

*Harold Wright,
Grain Valley MO*

*J Leslie Turiff,
Concordia MO*

*Albert & Dayna Janssens,
Peculiar MO*

MO State Hospitality Room

Attention all attending the Mo State Conference Oct. 24-25, Please bring your favorite finger food to donate to the generously open and popular Hospitality Room!!!! Hope to join you for goodies and fellowship!

You may also bring your items for the auction and silent auction to benefit the MO State Honey Queen Program. Thanks, your items are much appreciated!

GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 7:00 PM

Fall Management

Presented by Tom O'Neill

Followed by an open mic

Graceway Church Fellowship Hall
5460 Blue Ridge Cutoff, Kansas City MO

Join us at Graceway Church in the Fellowship Hall (Downstairs) as Tom O'Neill shares fall management techniques followed by an open discussion! The evening will be an informal format, you ask a question or share an experience and we will see what variety of answers we get from the group! So, please come and share!!

Just follow the "Bee" path from the front entrance down to the Fellowship Room to find us!
As always- Remember to bring a donation for Reap!

Our November program will be presented by Dasha Adzhigirey, a general manager at Bee Technologies, a Lee's Summit based family business. She will be sharing with us the benefits of using products from the hive for disease prevention and overall better health. Her family started this business 14 years ago, after moving here from Russia. Her father is a professional beekeeper and her mother is a biochemist and self-studied herbalist. This program should be a fascinating journey of simple but extremely effective ideas of how to use bee products such as propolis in everyday living!

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Open

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NUC INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM

Chaired by Stuart Dietz, the goal of this program is to make available healthy local nucs for Midwestern's members by Midwestern's members.

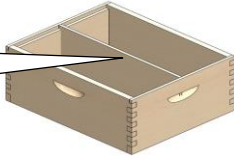
At the last meeting, Stuart addressed nuc configurations and wintering techniques.

Stuart Dietz: 785-969-6110
stuartadietz@aol.com

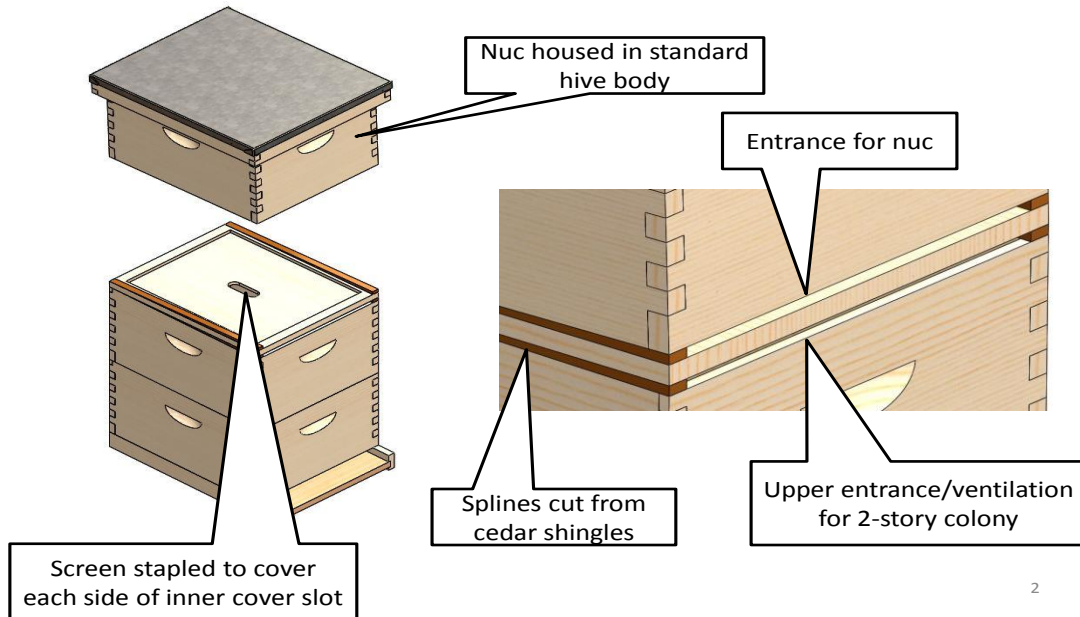
Wintering Nucs – a Few Ideas

Stuart Dietz

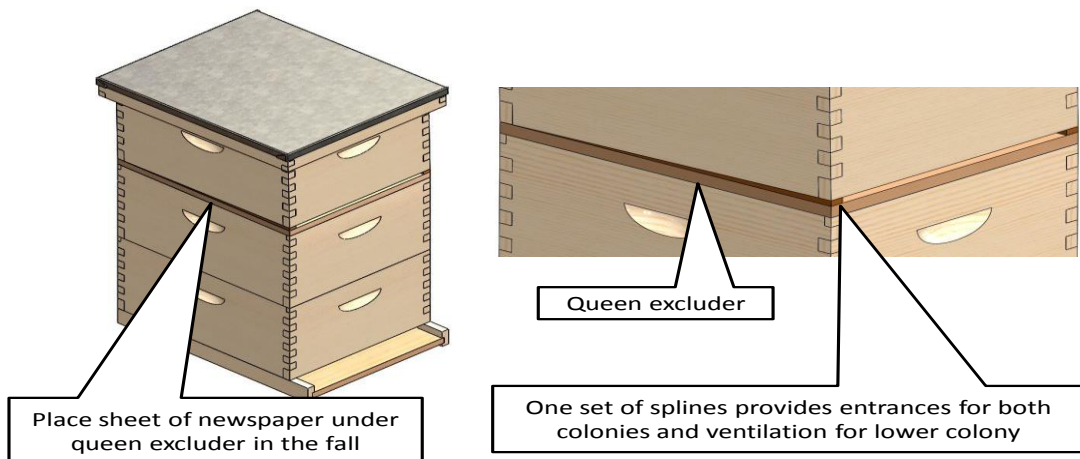
Standard 10-frame hive body with partition in the middle to separate into two nucs



Wintering Above Full-Strength Colony



Wintering Above Full-Strength Colony With Very Weak (3-frames bees or less)



When using the excluder method, make sure both colonies are heavy or feed well before winter so all the bees don't move up to the top and abandon the lower queen below the excluder

Wes and Wanda Johnston attended the 2014 Annual Conference of the Heartland Apicultural Society Meeting in July at Carbondale, Illinois.

“I learned about Heartland Apicultural Society through the Missouri State Beekeepers Association. I like that the majority of the presenters are actually in research and not just ruminating the same old stuff over and over again. The doctors weren’t too lofty and actually got into hives, dissected bees, and interacted with the attendees so it was extremely stimulating” -Wanda

HAS' speakers did a terrific job presenting their research projects. Dr. Juliana Rangel-Posada gave an update on her research at Texas A&M which involves the effect of pesticides on drone sperm count indicating that queens are needing to mate with many more drones to have an adequate viable sperm collection in her spermatheca. Dr. Reed Johnson, Assistant Professor of Entomology at Ohio State, discussed pesticides, fungicides, and poisons in the hive and their effects on bees. Dr. Zachary Huang is known for his research and photography; there were incredible honey bee photographs from his travels over the world. He gave a very interesting talk on Asian bees discussing how Asian bees ventilate the hive in the opposite direction that our bees work. Besides varroa destructor, there is another varroa mite being monitored for possible spread outside of Asia. At the HAS apiary, we were privileged to attend a lecture by Dr. Huang where he demonstrated using his voice to "sing to the bees" which actually

made the bees stop their activities since the vocal frequency was the same as a piping queen. Also Dr. Huang gave an informative program on bee communication pheromones. Dr. Jennifer Tsurda, Clemson University, brought in microscopes where she demonstrated basic bee dissection under magnification in her program named a Microscopic Look at Bees. Dwight Wells (Ohio State Beekeepers Association) gave an impressive program on the Heartland Honey Bee Breeding Cooperative. The HHBBC is a group of individuals from Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky who are passionate and dedicated queen producers, researchers and beekeepers. They endeavor to share genetics thus improving our northern honey bee stock and reduce the dependence on sunbelt bees that are less adapted to our northern conditions. Such a wealth of information is offered at the annual HAS meeting and at a very affordable registration fee; I am unable to discuss all the topics covered but I can guarantee I will return every year that I am a beekeeper.

Heartland Apicultural Society

In 2001 Heartland Apicultural Society was founded by Tom Webster (Researcher, Kentucky State University) Greg Hunt (Entomology, Purdue University), and Zachary Huang (Entomology, Michigan State University). Each year the meeting place changes. The 14th Annual Conference of Heartland Apicultural Society meeting will be located at Albion College in Albion, Michigan, on July 9, 10, & 11, 2015.
www.heartlandbees.org/

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Missouri State Beekeepers Association

Fall, 2014 Membership Conference
October 24th - 25th

Truman Hotel & Conference Center, Jefferson City, Missouri



Grant Gillard



Fedor Lazutin



Cory Stevens

plus many more to be announced soon!

PRESENTING ...

- "Natural Beekeeping With a Smile"
- "Learn Queen Rearing in 3 Sessions"
- "What You Need to Know About Apiculture Drought Insurance"
- "The Latest Techniques for Healthy Hives & High Honey Yields"
- "What About Horizontal Hives?"

... plus much, much more!

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- Compete In Our Cooking & Beeswax Contest!

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www.MOStateBeekeepers.org

Honey Plants

This month I wanted to talk about one of my favorite

Fall bloomers: **Autumn Sedum**

- This honey bee favorite blooms from August thru mid Fall
- Honey bees will tear this up when it starts blooming in late August / early September
- Blooms change from white to very deep crimson to almost copper over a couple of months



- Plants can reach a height of almost 3 feet tall and around 2 feet in diameter
- Autumn Sedum likes fertile soil but, will grow in full sun or partial shade

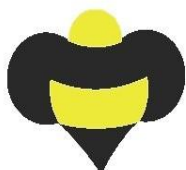
If you ordered your plants from Missouri Prairie Foundation they should have arrived. Janice and I ordered a diverse mixture of plants but, only received Swamp milkweed. We did plant ours on a Sunday (They arrived on late Friday afternoon and we had plans). All 32 appear to be doing well. Hope to see lots of bees next year on them.

WHAT DOES A BEE STYLE HIS HAIR WITH?

A HONEYCOMB!

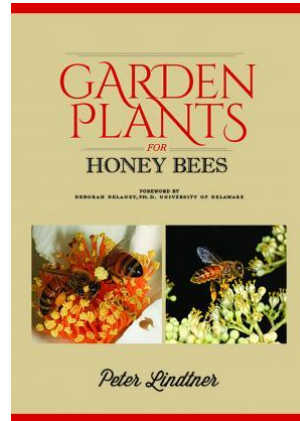
Happy Beekeeping

Tom Britz



Garden Plants for Honey Bees

by Peter Lindtner



Garden Plants for Honey Bees by Peter Lindtner is the culmination of a lifetime of photography, beekeeping, and horticulture. With each plant accompanied by a simple pollen and nectar production rating guide derived from his careful observations, this photo-rich guide can help you identify your most bee-friendly plants, add more to your landscaping and even plot a season-long supply of bee-

preferred nectar and pollen producers in your own backyard. It contains over 750 distinct photos and scanning electron micrographs of pollen grains. Dr. Deborah Delaney of the University of Delaware describes *Garden Plants for Honey Bees* as the book that "all beekeepers and gardeners have been waiting for".

Suitable for the coffee table, this 398 page, 6 inch by 9 inch resource guide will also serve as a field handbook for both disciplines. Combining beauty and function, bee health and biodiversity come together in this colorful new hardcover from Wicwas Press!

Needed: Educational Outreach Team

I am putting a list of interested beekeepers new and seasoned to assist with the public demand of Honey Bee Education and Appreciation. These volunteers can hopefully be called upon with opportunities to invest in their specific regions. This past year I conducted an estimated 70 programs and in much need of others willing to share the joy and importance of beekeeping along with the marvelous nature of our State Insect. I have put together a rolling footlocker of equipment used in demonstrations that is available to the volunteers. I am willing to share outlines etc. Please sign up at our meeting or give me a call. The more the merrier! Cathy M. (660) 656-3485

Basic Beekeeping

So you want to move your hives??

Why??

This is the first question to answer.

1. Do you have an upset urban neighbor?
2. Did your wife get stung?
3. Did your kids get stung?
4. Are they in the shade and you wanted to move them to the light?
5. Are you splitting them as part of swarm control?
6. Have you been kicked out of a bee yard?
7. Bees in a pool, the neighbors or yours?
8. In their desert, your desert?

If you can't answer "why", don't touch em!

So you have to move them, here is how I have done it; On how far, I move them a few inches at a time or I move them at least a half a mile away

For either long or short move start by removing all extraneous boxes (empty, partial empty, etc.), feeders, etc. Remove the bees from those boxes by knocking the bees out in front of the hive the day before the move. I want those hives I'm moving to be as light as possible! On a split that I have made, I only do long distance moves. Those bees that are not nurse bees on frames of brood will definitely go back to the original.

On a long distance move I will do the following; I will add a screened lid if it is hot and remove the telescoping cover.

I next ratchet strap the hive all together (bottom to lid) on the evening before in the dark (all the bees are in the hive). The next morning extra, extra early I block the entrance with foam rubber and duct tape any cracks very quickly and swiftly while it is early and cool. (Before any fliers get started)

I will then use a hand dolly, hive body carrier or if I have too, my back with a brace and place it on my trailer in in my truck bed. I double strap everything down. I love ratchet straps... (But buy good ones!!)

I move it to the new location as quick as possible, suit up, take the strap off, replace the cover and remove the foam...They will not be happy!!

On a short distance move I will do the following; I will move the hive just a few inches or very few feet at a time just waiting till dark and moving without blocking the entrance but strapping so the hive doesn't come apart during the move.

If you move them say more than 10 ft. at a time (some folks do it, I don't), I would make it at night and clog the entrance with grass, etc. to make them reorient and you still might have bees going back to the old location.

I'm sure I have missed something if so just keep asking questions and you will get 10 different answers from 10 different beekeepers.

Good luck on your move!!

AustinO Farms LLC

Added note:

It is getting late in our year, and it is important to consider temperature when moving bees. Refrain from moving bees when it is cooler than 50 degrees for the bees will be in cluster. If they are jostled the bees can fall from their cluster and be too cold to climb successfully back up onto the cluster and can literally freeze. Bees go into a "chill coma" when they get 48 degrees and cannot move. –Cathy Misko

The Kansas City Zoo has been receiving complaints of honey bees at the trash cans. The bees are robbing right now and can be quiet a nuisance even in our own apiaries.

Solution...prevent them from being fed. Require rinsing of the cans before trashing and have the trash cans be bee tight! Not only do they have to deal with honey bees but yellow jackets too which can sting over and over. The bees can detect odors for about 2 miles and have a memory of 3 days. Once they find a sweet source...they carry that info back to the hive to spread the news. –Cathy Misko

Physical/Mechanical Control Measures for Nuisance Bees/Wasps

- Use strong liners for waste containers that do not tear and create spills in dumpsters and trash cans.
- Rinse out soda cans, cups, and bottles.
- Empty trash cans frequently avoiding overflow, and ideally in early afternoon. Empty again at dusk.
- Use outdoor waste containers with spring-loaded doors and keep dumpster lids closed (Bee tight.)
- Place outdoor trash cans and dumpsters away from building entrances.
- Wash trash cans, dumpsters and surrounding ground periodically.
- Apply non-toxic repellents.
- Fix plumbing leaks, gutters that retain water, etc. to eliminate unwanted access to water.
- Plant forage plants (Flowering) away from public places.
- Provide watering stations away from public places.
- Provide education addressing respect and the importance of pollinators.

Conferences & Events



October 17-18, 2014

Kansas Honey Producers Meeting

Guests:

Gary and Ginger Reuter

www.kansashoneyproducers.org

October 24-25, 2014

**Missouri State Beekeepers
Conference**

Guests:

Fedor Lazutin, Grant Gillard &

Cory Stevens

www.mostatebeekeepers.org

November 14-15, 2014

Iowa Honey Producers Meeting

Guests:

Drs. Keith Delaplane & Marlia Spivak

www.abuzzaboutbees.com

January 6-10, 2015

**North American
Beekeeping Conference &
Tradeshaw**

Anaheim, CA

www.abfnet.org

January 8-10, 2015

Great Plains Growers Conference

www.greatplainsgrowersconference.org

Midwestern Beekeepers

Year at a Glance

October 23 @ 5:45 pm

Executive Board Meeting

Graceway Church

Fellowship Hall

October 23 @ 7:00 pm

General Meeting & Program

Graceway Church

Fellowship Hall

November 16 @ 2:30 pm

General Meeting & Program

Graceway Church

Fellowship Hall

December 14 @ 2:30 pm

General Meeting & Program

Graceway Church

Fellowship Hall

**YES! Congratulations Midwestern
Beekeepers!**

Jim Fisher took home the MO State Fair **Grand Champion Award** contributing to...**Midwestern Beekeeper's Association** being awarded the MO State Fair **Club Grand Champion Award**...Whoop!!!

Good job hive!! Let's keep it up for next year!

From the Editor . . .

Midwestern Beekeeper, Barry Ballenger, recently wrote to me, "I am a member of Midwestern Beekeepers and also an aerospace engineer for the FAA here in Kansas City. One of the technologies we are working on is night vision for small aircraft. One of the engineers was telling me that one of the drivers for this technology is to be able to crop dust at night versus day time in order to help prevent (as much as possible) spraying worker bees. By doing dusting at night when all the bees are in "the house", we lessen the effect on the bee population. Do you think a short article on this would be something for the newsletter? My answer to him was "Yes, Absolutely!"

I appreciate Barry contacting me to bring relevant information to our membership and I look forward to his article. I bring this to your attention because, like Barry, I hope you also will contact me with your stories, pictures and suggestions.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and take away something that is useful to you.

Finally, Barry also informed me about the Vermont Law School being the 1st Official Bee-Friendly, Neonicotinoid Pesticide-Free Campus in the Nation.

Vermont Law School



1st Official Bee-Friendly, Neonicotinoid Pesticide-Free Campus in Nation

SOUTH ROYALTON, Vt., Aug. 7, 2014—Vermont Law School has partnered with the Center for Food Safety's BEE Protective Campaign, making it the first higher-education campus in the country to earn official neonicotinoid pesticide-free designation. Read more:

http://www.vermontlaw.edu/News_and_Events/News_Releases/Vermont_Law_1st_Official_Bee-Friendly_Neonicotinoid_Pesticide-Free_Campus_in_Nation_.htm

Janice

MARKETPLACE

Do you need your honey supers extracted? If so, contact Jim Fisher [816-918-6648](tel:816-918-6648) for custom extracting.

Heartland Honey and Beekeeping Supplies

Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney

19201 S. Clare Rd., Spring Hill KS 66083 (913)

856-8356 • joli@heartlandhoney.com

Monday through Friday (closed Wednesday) from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm and by appointment

We appreciate when you call your orders in ahead.

We carry a complete line of beekeeping supplies including woodenware, smokers, extractors, books, queens, package bees and containers. We will trade wax for supplies..

Fisher's Bee Supplies

Ed Fisher

4005 N.E. 132nd Street, Smithville MO 64089

816-532-4698

Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm

Saturdays after 8:30 am

Call in advance to make sure we are here.

We carry a complete line of beekeeping supplies. See us for your woodenware, smokers, containers, foundation, extractors, beekeeping books, queens and package bees. We also have extractors for rent. We will trade your wax for supplies.

Jordy's Honey

Robert Hughes

12333 Wedd Street, Overland Park KS 66213

913-681-5777

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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.

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Brenda and Larry Draper

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402-274-3725

Monday through Thursday 8 am to 5pm. Closed from 12 to 1 pm.

We offer fast and courteous service to all beekeepers. We sell all the supplies for beekeeping supplies, containers, bee pollen and honey for those who run short. Order is shipped the same day as received in most cases. Free catalog available on request. Pick up orders at our warehouse must be pre-ordered and picked up by appointment only.



Membership Name Tags

If you would like to have a name tag with your name, city, our association name and a honey bee logo, please place your order at the back table at the General Meeting. The cost is \$8.



Graceway Church Parking Directions

General Parking is on the West side

Use the Main Entrance

Drop-off and wheelchair only access on the south



Let's Pay it Forward!!!!

Our meetings are free but to show appreciation for Graceway's sponsorship of our new meeting venue, please bring one of the following to our Monthly Meeting to aid Raytown Emergency Assistance Program (REAP)

- Non – Perishable Food Item*
- School Supplies*
- New Toy*

Raytown Emergency Assistance Program, REAP, helps the people in the Raytown community who are temporarily unable to help themselves. The mission of REAP is to consistently deliver emergency services, making the clients dignity, self esteem and stabilization a top priority.



2014 Membership Application

Check one: Renewal New Membership

Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Would you like to receive the Beeline by:

Email Mail

Individual Membership: (1/2 Yr \$7.50) \$15 _____

Family Membership: \$18 _____

(2 voting rights)

Youth Scholarship Donation: _____

Total: _____

Make Checks Payable to:
Midwestern Beekeepers Association

Mail to:
Tanya Fisher, P O Box 132, Raymore MO 64083

Questions: tfisher@kinglouie.com, 816-322-9245

Missouri State Beekeepers Membership Fees can be paid by PayPal www.MOStateBeekeepers.org or mailed directly to: MSBA, c/o Steve Moeller, P O Box 7514, Columbia MO 65205

Beekeeping Magazine Subscriptions

To receive the American Bee Journal or Bee Culture magazines at the discounted club rate, mention that you are a member of the Midwestern Beekeepers Association and send your check to:

American Bee Journal,
51 S. 2nd Street
Hamilton IL 62341

1 year @ \$21, 2 years @ \$39.75, 3 years @ \$56.25

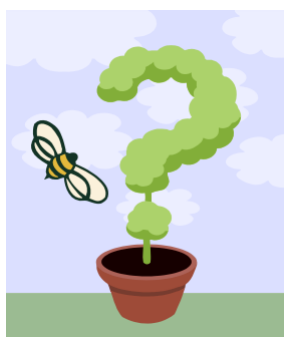
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TANYA FISHER
P O BOX 132
RAYMORE MO 64083**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**NEXT MEETING DATE:
GENERAL MEETING: 10/23/14 @ 7pm
Graceway Church Fellowship Hall**



The question that I NEED answered:

Topic that I would LOVE to have covered:

Cut this out and bring it to next month's meeting or feel free to e-mail me, Laura Fish @ DDetailsfish@gmail.com with your questions or topics that you want covered! I look forward to hearing from you!