



Wisps of Smoke By Cathy Misko

Can the days buzz past any faster? October is here but it feels like summer. Some hives have drones; some have kicked them all out! The girls are bringing in fall nectar and the smell of fall pollen from the asters and golden rod can be detected clear across the yard. The first time I smelled such a scent I called a beekeeper complaining that the hives must be sick! Be encouraged, with time the smell will fade and the added food will help prep the colonies for winter. However, our eyes can continue to gaze and enjoy the fall colors and count monarchs migrating to Mexico; fortunately I have seen more this year than last year and I am sure they have benefited from many who planted milkweed plants!

Congratulations to student Michael Easton for receiving his *Certificate of Ownership* and for providing his presentation to us. Thank you to the urban beekeepers Ezekiel Amador, Dr. Patrick Dobson and Mr. Roger Minniear who shared their methods of beekeeping using the Kenya Hive, Warre Hive, and the Langstroth Hive. As I say, every day is a learning day and it is a treat to see how beekeeping touches so many individuals. I dream that someday Kansas City will boast of the KC Midwestern Urban Beekeepers that not only promotes excellent management skills but encourages hives on top of city buildings and gardens but also raise awareness and respect for the Kansas and Missouri State Insect across the metro! I did have a meeting this week with the city of KC and ideas are in the works for considering bees on city property...Kansas City is vibrant with fresh ideas; as encouragement and examples of the possibilities, many other cities have laid groundwork in support of the honey bee! We are living in exciting times!

Calls are still coming in for small swarms and a number of beekeepers have harnessed "open hives" in the trees just in time before our cold snap arrives. It is true...the bees do NOT read our books! Reports are that honey moisture is still high and many have needed to dehydrate the honey to bring it down to at least 18.5%. I like it to be lower than 18% to give room for error. Remember to bring your honey to the meeting to be test if needed.

Continued on Page 2

COMING UP General Meeting

THURSDAY, OCT 15, 7:00 PM Graceway Church Fellowship Hall

BEES (a) THE PRO

THURSDAY, NOV 5, 7:00 PM

Bass Pro Independence Mo

2015 GENERAL MEETING Nov. 15, (Sunday) 2:30 pm Dec. 13, (Sunday) 2:30 pm

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

www.midwesternbeekeepers.org



Midwestern Beekeepers Association Members Closed Group

Deadline for newsletter submission is the 25th of each month

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Wisps of Smoke Continued

Personally I have yet to harvest all my honey and I hope the weather remains warm until I get back from a special trip to Florida! I am feeding my nucs and those which did not put up honey. Mite tests have shown between 1- 3 percent. Reducers are on for I have had low population nucs robbed out!

This time of year it is vital to check food stores and for mite loads. (Actually all the feeding should be completed by Thanksgiving and everyone can feast and be thankful together!) September and October are the months that the colonies raise the winter bees. If healthy, winter bees usually live for 4-6 months. If you do not know how to do a mite count or how to treat, check the resources on our website or give a board member a call to get some help. As the weather gets cooler you are limited on what type of mite treatment to do. Many rely on the newly approved Oxalic Acid to use during the fall and during a broodless cycle. John Speckman addressed his OA dribble and you can view it also on the website.

Midwestern members have been presenting many outreach programs. The Warrensburg Veteran's Home Appreciation was a highlight with Scholarship Seth McGraw and his parents, Michael Stauffer, and Tom O'Neill. Our hearts were touched to have veterans walk or wheel up to the bees and then they share how once they too kept bees. They thanked us and we honored them for their service. Tomorrow we finish up the gigantic program for the American Royal School Tours... 5,000 kids and counting! Such programs are important for some may never see and hear about how vital the honey bee is. These kids are not only future voters but they are our future! Thank you Janice Britz, Lynn J. Soulier, Lillian Misko Panilla, and Scholarship Student Claire McClung for sacrificing your voices!

October's Meeting should be a priority. We will be treated with a rare presentation by Past President Bob Harrison from Busy Bee Acres who has served many years in this association and as a *century* beekeeper and mentor. He has traveled abroad because of bees and contributed articles to the American Bee Journal. He has been there, done that. He sees where beekeeping has been, and where he thinks beekeeping is going. Along with hearing from Holly Grimwood addressing the REAP Program...it will be a memorable evening.

Meet us early at 6:00 to set up our room and to net-work. Let's welcome Holly with a FULL barrel of non-perishable food items. (Please note that this is our last evening meeting until April for we will go to Sunday afternoons along with day light saving time.) Looking forward, Cathy

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October General Meeting



Thursday, October 15, 7pm

What a treat our next general meeting will be! Holly Grimwood from REAP (Raytown Emergency Assistance Program) would like to take a few minutes to share with us how our donations each month help!

"50 Years Amongst the Bees"

Presented by Midwestern Beekeepers Association's very own, Bob Harrison!

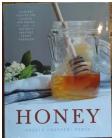
In a 10 minute conversation with him, I was transported back 40 years ago, walking thru an apiary checking bees. This gentleman has such a vast experience of beekeeping – from commercial (loading hives on a flat bed – by hand!), moving them around, to getting out of keeping bees all together, to now having two bee ranch hands helping him! Please come join us to listen to his lifelong story! You will learn what has changed with keeping bees and what still works today! Should be fascinating! Thursday, October 15th at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Graceway Church.

Please remember a donation for REAP! See you there!

Library News

By Tom O'Neill





Most honey harvesting is over now so what do we do with all this great stuff ? Well last month we added HONEY: Everyday Recipes for Cooking and Baking with Nature's Sweetest Secret Ingredient. Two hundred "real" recipes where flavor is enhanced with honey and other simple ingredients.

The author Angelo Prosperi-Porta worked as a pastry chef in some of Western Canada's best hotels before opening Angelo's cooking school at Cooper's Cove Guesthouse in Victoria, BC.

I attached a Ziploc bag to the back cover so feel free to share your own favorite recipes with the rest of us. I hope to see all of you at our next meeting.

2015 Officers

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Urban Liaison

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Member Spotlight

Bob Harrison Busy Bee Acres Apiaries





"When trying to solve a problem with your bees, eliminate the simple reason. First, keep varroa mite levels low. Make sure your bees have enough stores to last a bad winter. Take your winter losses in the fall by combining a weak hive with a strong hive." -Bob Harrison



Nuc Initiative Stuart Dietz

Bees @ the Pro

Thursday, November 5, 7pm

Nuc and Mature Colonies Fall/Winter Prep Personal 2015 Nuc Experiences and Future Plans. When did you start beekeeping and how did you become interested in bees?

Beekeeping was my project in FFA in the early 60's in Florida. I worked for a commercial Beekeeper.

What process have you done to learn about managing your bees?

25 Year Member of American Beekeeping Federation, Lifetime Member Midwestern Beekeepers, I am a Past President of Midwestern Beekeepers and I have attended many national conventions.

What had been the greatest hurdle in keeping bees?

The last decade of problems! Today's bees are not the bees I worked with decades ago. I am not sure why? Most likely not a single reason.

What has been your greatest success in keeping bees?

Friends we have made on our beekeeping journey.



Welcome New Members

Angel Fritts Peculiar MO

Alan & Tammy Hickman Independence MO

Lee Ann & Alan Rosine Kansas City MO



Honey Plants

By Tom Britz

It's hard to believe October is already here and it is time to prepare for



another year of beekeeping. The Honey Bees are doing just that, by working those fall plants for pollen and nectar. One of those plants I'd like to talk about is Ironweed. The photo taken near our home of the Ironweed is what I'm pretty sure is "Baldwins" or also called "Western" Ironweed.

This information is taken directly for Missouri Department of Conservation:

Family:

Asteraceae (daisies and sunflowers)

Description:

Ironweeds are tough, grayish-green, branching perennials known for their fluffy -looking clusters of reddish-purple florets. Flower heads are very numerous, rosepurple with many florets (to 34) in each head. Bracts at the base of the heads are broad, long-pointed, and spreading.



Blooms May-September. Leaves alternate,

hairy, lanceolate, sharply pointed at both ends, with short stems and fine teeth, to about 6 inches long.

Similar species: There are 5 *Vernonia* species in Missouri, and they often hybridize, making identification tricky. This species prefers drier habitats and blooms earlier than the others. The broad, long-pointed, spreading bracts at the base of the flower heads identify this species.

"Vernoia Baldwinii" is by far the most common Ironweed in Missouri, it is an excellent source of nectar and a very good source of pollen for the Honey Bees.

There are quite a few plants that are still blooming including goldenrod, white dutch clover, asters and perennial garden plants as well as many others

Happy Beekeeping, Tom



http://www.honey.com/blog/2015/ detail/honey-is-a-flavor-honey-named-2015-flavor-of-the-year-by-firmenich



http://americanhoneytastingsociety.com/

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Nominating Committee is in Progress!

Angela Summers, Harold Wright, Steve DeCaigney and Bob and Michelle Williams

The Midwestern Beekeepers Association is about 70 years strong because of the good heartedness of its volunteers. Please consider serving on the Board of Directors so to inspire; keep us fresh and up with the times. Help pass on beekeeping skills and support tomorrow's generation.



Basic Beekeeping

By Roger Wood

- This is "moving month" for beekeepers in Missouri. Final preparations for winter should normally 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 to complete: balancing existing honey stores between healthy hives, feeding supplementals 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, etc.), removing surplus honey for extraction, and combining nucs or weak hives or preparing them to winter in groups or on stronger colonies.
- In nature, bee comb is hung from the roof of the cavity. The queen immediately takes to laying eggs and the nest is formed gradually filling the void as the nest expands and the colony grows in numbers. This first comb becomes darker with each generation of bees raised. As the year progresses, the nest moves down and surplus honey is stored above the nest. Once the nest reaches the lower sections 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 mention 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 winter cluster on dark comb. I do not know of any study that suggests this is true but I have heard it enough to want to pass it on. Applying that opinion to the natural progression of a colony in a tree cavity makes some sense.
- Sugar syrup should be 2 parts sugar, 1 part water. This takes less time for the bees to drive the water off.
- 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 floors, 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 lying 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.
- Protect your drawn comb until freezing weather arrives. Comb that has never had brood raised in it can be kept stacked separate from dark comb without much protection. Dark comb needs more. 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 tight 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 will for this.

- Cold does not kill healthy bees.
 Poor health, too much humidity (poor ventilation), exposure to wind, and or lack of food in any combination kill bees in winter.
- Inspections should become less penetrating as the month moves forward. You do not want to crack the propolis seals between boxes late into the fall without a dire reason to do so. Open the top to take a quick look at the top box to ensure you have adequate stores. 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 pray to that beekeeper in the sky you didn't goof up. 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 an extra shim or shallow empty super 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 eve level with the cluster so wind drafts from that broken seal will never blow directly on the cluster. The imperfections of this broken seal is all the upper ventilation I provide. Also realize that with the seal broken on the lids and too cold for the bees to fix, the 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 are going to do an oxalic acid dribble for mites you want to do this after the hive goes broodless and before you wrap the hive. If you break seals between boxes and there will not be any warm days to reseal them, wrapping is a good way to prevent wind infiltration after breaking these seals in cold weather.

FYI from the Editor



By Janice Britz

Keeping records can be a real challenge for a beekeeper. Tom and I discovered that our best tool for keeping records is our cell phone. We use our notes application for recording our data and often include pictures. Once we come home, all we have to do is print and add it to our notebook.

We did our second round of mite testing this past weekend using the powdered sugar shake method. We used our camera to take a closeup picture of the mites so we could do an accurate count.



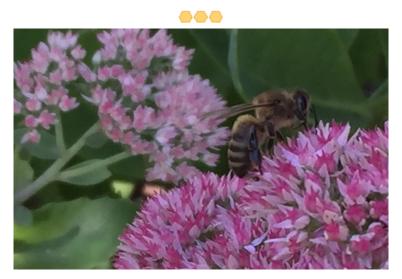


In another hive, we could see that it was failing. We took a picture of eggs, and it was easy to see that we had laying workers.

A picture allows you to zoom in for a good look and also gives you a visual record. It works for us.

There are three tools that I have referred to for our Integrated Pest Management (IPM) this past month. The first is the publication produced by the Honey Bee Health Coalition, *Tools for Varroa Management*. You can download the pdf here: <u>http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/</u>

The other two I received at Bees @ The Pro. Cathy Misko provided her detailed directions for Powered Sugar Dusting. John Speckman demonstrated a Oxalic Acid Dribble treatment and provided a handout. Don't miss out on Midwestern's valuable programs to further your skills.



Honeybee on Autumn Sedum

Alex Zomchek Webinar Ohio State Bee Assoc.

Master Beekeeper

"Hands off beekeeping is no longer an option" <u>http://u.osu.edu/beelab/what-newbees-need-to-know/</u>

We need a NEW MINDSET having the philosophy to be our bees' detective, physician, and scientist!

- Understand & adapt to the Pests-Diseases Centric World
- Shop for "best" bees possible
- Build in mortality to your bee operation...requeen...
- Location: forage & water...think 10s, 100s or millions of flowers
- Foundation, rotation, & orientation...
- Know your CURVES...
- seasonal...pests...
- Time & Timing
- Hands-on beekeeping
- Monitor, monitor, monitor...
- Treat appropriately
- Feed for starvation, stimulation, and nutrition.



Oxalic Acid: Effective & Easy On Bees, But. . . by Jennifer Berry www.beeculture.com/oxalicacid-effective-easy-on-beesbut/

Oxalic Acid Supplier: <u>www.brushymountainbeefarm.</u> <u>com/Oxalic-Acid/</u> <u>productinfo/727/</u>

Certified Naturally Grown Guides: Handbook, Help the Honey Speak www.naturallygrown.org/ resources/for-naturalbeekeepers

Conferences & Events



Missouri State Beekeepers Association Fall, 2015 Membership Conference October 16th - 17th Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia, Missouri



Plus More Exciting Speakers To Be Announced SOON! Plus More Exciting Speakers To Be Announced SOON! Meet Beekeepers From Across the Region! Compete In Our Cooking & Artwork Contest!

www.mostatebeekeepers.org

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American Royal School Tours





The Magazine of American Beekeeping www.beeculture.com AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

www.americanbeejournal.com

October 30-31, 2015

Kansas Honey Producers McPherson KS Guest: Judy Wu Smart Effects of Neonicotinoids www.kansashoneyproducers.org



January 5-9, 2016

North American Beekeeping Conference and Trade Show Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa Ponte Vedra Beach (Jacksonville), Florida www.abfnet.org

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January 7-9, 2016

Great Plains Growers Conference St. Joseph MO Dr. Lawrence Conner will be speaking on queen-rearing www.greatplainsgrowersconference.org

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Stain Glass Spinners \$25 Place your orders @660-656-3485

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Name Tags (\$8) available to purchase at general meeting





Scholarship Student Claire McClung and Lynn J. Soulier at the American Royal School Tours.



Michael Easton 888

Apimondia 2019 Montréal (Facebook, 9/19/15)



It's a win! We will proudly host Apimondia 2019 in IMONDIA Montréal! Thank you all for your collaboration!

Apimondia USA Bid for 2019 (Facebook, 9/20/15)

Our team did a FANTASTIC job



in South Korea, but the USA was not selected to host the 2019 Apimondia congress. We are

certainly disappointed, but take pride in all we have accomplished over the past three years. Thank you to all our committee members, sponsors and all of you for your support during this project.

Youth Scholarship Awards

It is that time of year again for prospective students to apply for the youth scholarship program. Please visit our website for more info! Deadline is January 31st.



Cory Webb and Mentor Pete Fish, Claire Mc Clung, Riley Taranto, Kyle Day, Garrett Miller and Mentor Steve Boxx, Jacqueline Janorschke

OBJECTIVES

To educate youth in the art of beekeeping and to promote a better understanding of the value of honeybees to our environment and to the food chain.

To provide an opportunity for youth to experience responsibility and enjoyment through beekeeping.

To provide an avenue for youth to engage in an avocation and gain the potential to pursue beekeeping as a sideline or a full-time vocation.

THE AWARD

- A two-year Midwestern Beekeepers Association membership.
- A beginning beekeeper seminar and textbook (March) •
- 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 Midwestern Beekeepers Association member for one • year.

ELIGIBILITY

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 that are currently beekeepers.

Submit application (postmarked) to Midwestern Beekeepers Association no later than January 31st of the Award Year (unless previously agreed.)

MARKETPLACE

MEMBERS OF MIDWESTERN BEE-KEEPERS ASSOCIATION CAN AD-VERTISE FOR FREE IN THE NEWS-LETTER! 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

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

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Draper's Super Bee

Brenda and Larry Draper 914 S Street, Auburn NE 68305 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 h o n e y f o r those who run short. O r d e r is shipped the same day as r e c e i v e d in most cases. F r e e catalog available on request. P i c k u p ord e r s at our warehouse must be preordered. Pick up by a p p o in t m e n t o n l y

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.

Jim Fisher 816-918-6648

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

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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.



Kenny Johnson (816) 443-3412

Food grade buckets with lids for \$1.00 includes 1 gallon, 3 gallon, and 4 gallon buckets.

Hive Sweet Hive

Mike & Tom Falconnier 313 SW 1451st Rd Holden, MO 64040 816-732-4846

We are a local family wood shop and we manufacture beekeeping wood ware of all types, including Langstroth and the Kenya Top Bar. Custom design available. We also have frames and foundations. All our wood ware is available assembled or unassembled. Please call in advance so we can have your order ready when you arrive



Jordy's Honey Robert Hughes 12333 Wedd Street Overland Park KS 66213 913-681-5777

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.



Ozark Cedar Hives Bob Owen 1113 Everest Rd Galena, MO (417) 559-0506

www.ozarkcedarhives.com

Manufacturers of superior quality cedar hives here in our family shop. We make Langstroth (8 or 10 frame design) and Warre hives (with or without windows). We also have frames and foundation.

2016 MIDWESTERN BEEKEEPERS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE CHECK ONE: _____RENEWAL ____ NEW MEMBERSHIP

www.midwesternbeekeepers.org

NAME:				
SPOUSES NAME:				
ADDRESS:				
CITY:	STATE:			
EMAIL ADDRESS:				
WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE BEELINE BY:EMAIL			MAIL	
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP:			\$15	
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (2 CLUB VOTING RIGHTS):			\$18	
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP DONATION:				
TOTAL:				
How did you hear about the	club?:			
Make checks payable to:	Midwestern Beekeepe	Midwestern Beekeepers Association		
Mail to:	P O BOX 132, Raymor	P O BOX 132, Raymore, MO 64083		
Questions:	jtfish85@aol.com or 8	jtfish85@aol.com or 816-322-9245 (Tanya Fisher)		

Missouri State Beekeepers Membership Fees can be paid by Pay Pal or mailed directly to: MSBA, *c/o Ste-ve Moeller, PO Box 7514, Columbia, MO 65205*



TANYA FISHER P O BOX 132 RAYMORE MO 64083 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

General Meeting Thursday, October 15, 7 pm Graceway Church Fellowship Hall Bees @ The Pro Thursday, November 5, 7 pm Bass Pro-Independence MO www.midwesternbeekeepers.org NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID WARRENSBURG MO PERMIT NO. 16



The question that I NEED an-

swered:

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 (a) <u>DDetailsfish@gmail.com</u> with your questions or topics that you want covered! I look forward to hearing from you!

Graceway Church Parking Directions

General parking is on the west side and 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, 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