

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

VOLUME 67 • NUMBER 8

**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 books from
our library**
- **Discounts on Bee Journals**
- **Right to free (non-commercial)
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- **Monthly Meetings**

Visit our website:

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.**

THE BEE LINE

Wisps of Smoke

By Cathy Misko

As many of you open up your *Bee Line* you will find that it has a different look and flavor while holding to Midwestern's goal of excellence. There has been shifting in our Board. With gratefulness the Board unanimously welcomes Janice Britz to serve the remainder of 2014 as our Publicity Chair/Editor. Janice welcomes your submissions and heartily looks forward to hearing from you.

Many of our members and scholarship students enjoyed working the booth selling products, sharing how to start beekeeping, answering management questions, and proclaiming the marvels of honey bee biology at the Missouri State Fair! With pride I admired many products being sold by the Missouri State Beekeepers Association that come from our Midwestern's beekeepers: hundreds of jars of golden honey from Roger Nichols, hundreds of pounds of cut comb from Stuart and Nita Dietz, buttery creamed honey from Mike Allen, millions of grains of pollen by Dean Sanders, candles made by

Dolores Vivian, and educational literature from Ed Fisher!

Drum roll, please; I announce the Mr. Jim Fisher IS the beekeeper to learn from for AGAIN he has received the coveted *Grand Champion Award!*

I did not get my 3 entries in for I arrived 15 minutes late and missed the deadline only to end up giving my Apple Blossom Honey entries away to some of the hardest booth workers! Next year I plan to try and match Jim Fisher with many entries and have a margin of being ready a *full 24* hours in advance.

Thank you Past President Andy Nowachek for the Summer Management Program. It is my conviction that excellent management it presented

providing the best possible chances for bees to be successfully brought through the winter. Even when the beekeeper has done everything correct, losses occur. Take heart, if mistakes are made, there will still be "lessons in the learning" making us better beekeepers.

Our annual picnic was a blast with lots of laughs and many went home with needed equipment. One beekeeper even inherited the observation hive's queen for his hive was hopelessly queenless. Thank you to all who donated including some high

continued to next page



quality custom made items. Thank you for your generous bidding and a hearty applause goes to our budding auctioneer Terry O'Bryan!

The fun, food, and fellowship were fantastic. What a great group you all are! Food and kitchen

crew, you know who you are and you assured that we all feasted and the clean up was immaculate. It was a treat to hear Scholarship Students Ian Parrish and Tim Russell's presentations proving the benefit in supporting the scholarship program. *Certificates of Ownership* were presented to Ian, Tim, and to Nolan Williams; Congratulations young men; Congratulations mentors.

After removing honey supers many are pleasantly surprised to find that when supers are replaced so the bees can clean them out, bees fill them back up for our amazing tropical weather is certainly supporting ongoing forage. Do not be surprised if you smell intense aroma from the hives; Fall Aster pollen is quite odiferous and you might caution bottling it! It is imperative to check for mites after honey removal and treat if necessary to assure that your bees go into winter with a healthy cluster. It is now recommended to not allow mite levels higher than 2% load this time of year. The math is as follows: If testing 300 bees (3 oz. about 2/3 cup or 1 1/2 inch of a quart jar) and if 6 mites were counted via sugar shake,

“It is imperative to check for mites after honey removal and treat if necessary to assure that your bees go into winter with a healthy cluster”

multiply by 2 if brood present and then divide by the 300 bees tested. $6 \times 2 / 300 = 12 / 300 = 4\%$. You need to treat. The bees right now live 3-5 weeks however; the bees born for winter have more body fat and may

live about 4 months if healthy. At this time brood production is encourage and if you need to feed, dissolve 8 POUNDS of sugar to 1 gallon of water. Otherwise one can begin 2:1 ratio after Labor Day of 8 lbs sugar to 1/2 gallon H2O. It does take the bees about a month to “cure” the stored syrup. As you inspect hives and find that the bottom super is fully empty, reverse them locating the brood back in the bottom. Keep in mind that in our region the bees need about 65 pounds of honey to get them through the winter. For your own use, under *Resources*, you can download an inspection sheet from our website.

www.midwesternbeekeepers.org

With great enthusiasm, on August 13th about 50 members gathered at the Bass Pro to consider learning how to raise nucs powered by successful over wintered queens with the hope of selling their nucs to other Midwestern Beekeepers. I have appointed Stuart Dietz to Chair this *Nuc Initiative Pilot Program*. We will be meeting again September 11th to learn different nuc configurations and wintering techniques. Watch for posting of details.

Last October we had many reports of swarms; I look forward to

September's program covering the biology of honey bee swarms.

(Note the newly Honey Bee decorated REAP barrel provided REAP Assistant Director Holly Grimwood in the Fellowship Hall for non-perishables!)

Join us early at 6:00 for networking and setting up our room



Why is *Honey Bee* spelled with two words and not one? Here is the official explanation by Robert D. Snodgrass: “Regardless of dictionaries, we have in entomology a rule for insect common names that can be followed. It says: If the insect is what the name implies, write the two words separately; otherwise run them together. Thus we have such names as house fly, blow fly, and robber fly contrasted with dragonfly, caddicefly, and butterfly, because the latter are not flies, just as an aphision is not a lion and a silverfish is not a fish. The honey bee is an insect and is preeminently a bee; “honeybee” is equivalent to “Johnsmith”
–From *Anatomy of a Honey Bee* by Robert D. Snodgrass

Taking care of your bee colonies in the fall can lead to successful overwintering which in turn ensures strong, production bees in the spring.

-The Bee Line, August 2010

GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 7:00 PM

The Calendar behind the Swarm Mentality

PRESENTED BY SHANNON HOLCOMB

Graceway Church Fellowship Hall

5460 Blue Ridge Cutoff, Kansas City MO

Do you know the details behind how a hive decides to swarm? How many people truly know the swarm calendar? From the time the HIVE decides it wants to swarm until the first new adult appears what happens and exactly when?!

This is a scientific area that applies to all times of the year due to the fact it is timing and sometimes weather plays a factor. Coupled with the knowledge of the metamorphosis of the Apis mellifera thru the complete life cycle.

Shannon Holcomb will walk us through this! Shannon is with the St. Joseph Swarm Chasers and is President of Missouri Master Naturalists (Loess Hills Group).

Our meeting is September 18th at 7 pm at Graceway Church, in the Fellowship Hall, downstairs. Follow the bee and flower path from the front door! Come early and visit! Don't forget to bring a food item or school supplies for REAP!

We hope to see you there!

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Open

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**Build Your Own 5 Frame
Nuc**

Get 4 nucs from 1 sheet of plywood

http://www.beesource.com/files/5framenuc_coates.pdf

Much appreciation goes to **Robin Dyer** for thinking of Midwestern and providing the poetry books titled “*The Telling of Bees*” by **Ronald W. McReynolds**. **Thank you** Mr. McReynolds for graciously donating them to our membership! We have been enriched! Thank you! Thank you!

**Congratulations
Award Winners!!!!!!**

**Youth Scholarship
Raffle Winners**

Angela Summers
“Bee On Flower”
Donated by Artist Bobbi Walker

Lynelle Pierce
“Family Membership”
Donated by Powell Gardens

Sheila Bays
“Complete Hive Woodenware”
Donated by Heartland Honey

**Midwestern August 3rd
Honey Show Awards**

**Queen and her Bees Observation
Hive**
1st- Wanda Johnston

Light Extracted Honey
1st - Beth Avery
2nd- Dolores Vivian
3rd- Jacqueline Janorschke

Dark Extracted Honey
1st- Dolores Vivian

Wax Design
1st- Dolores Vivian

Picnic Game Awards

Drone Count...10
Drones- Sam Parrish and Sherry Swope

Hive Hefting
Too Light (*better feed*).....39 lbs.
Sheila Bays
Just Right.(60 – 65 lbs).....65 lbs.
Angela Summers
Too Heavy(*should share*).....110 lbs.
Lauren Collins
2014 Mo State Honey Queen
Midwestern Joker :
Jessica Janorschke

*Thank you for all generous
prizes and raffle donations!*

Winning Joke:
What does the bee never like to see in her wardrobe?
A little yellow jacket!!!!

Drum Roll!!!!

Our Annual 2014 August Auction/Potluck brought in a total of **\$744.32.**

Applause to all contributing to the Youth Scholarship Program!!!!



New Members

Bob & Denise Armor
Cosby, MO

Julie Needham
Blue Springs, MO

Brenda & Rod Stoll
Independence, MO

Vera Williams
Kansas City, MO

WELCOME

Soap Making Party

Saturday, October 4th

By Laura Fish

Have you always wanted to try your hand at making soap? Me too! Saturday, October 4th - starting at 1 pm, in my home in Parkville, I am hosting a soap making party! **This event can only be open to 5 people** as my kitchen is not all that large! Debbie DeCaigney will be leading us thru the process of making Honey and Oatmeal Scrub Soap.

Debbie has the specialty items, such as coconut oil, palm oil and etc. So, for a cost of \$ 10.00 per person she will supply those items! You will have to bring your own pot, measuring spoons, soap mold and etc. I will give you the list of items you will need to bring when you sign up. (Most are items you already have- just know that the items you bring to use should not be used for food prep afterwards.) If you have a fragrance/ essential oil you like- please bring it! I do have lavender and lemongrass oil already!

So, the only way I know to do this is the first 5 folks that call me @ 816-809-1629 are the class! I am excited to try my hand at this and look forward to hearing from you!

Laura Fish
Parkville, MO
Call me @ 816-809-1629

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zekeamador@aol.com
816-616-7619

Missouri State Fair

Individual Winning Entries

Class 1: Cut Comb Honey in Plastic Boxes

1. Kenneth Heitkamp, St. Louis
2. Jim Fisher, Raymore
3. Mary E. Raymond, Chesterfield

Class 2: Round or Square Section Comb Honey

1. Jim Fisher, Raymore
2. Samuel Fahrmeier, Wellington

Class 3: Light Bulk Comb Honey

1. Jim Fisher, Raymore
2. Kenneth Heitkamp, St. Louis

Class 4: Light/amber Extracted Honey

1. Mary E. Raymond, Chesterfield
2. Jim Fisher, Raymore
3. Kenneth Heitkamp, St. Louis
4. Jurgen Ermel, Kirkwood
5. Bob Finck, Fenton
6. Matt Marciano, St. Louis
7. Laurie Miller, Clayton

Class 5: Dark Extracted Honey

1. Jim Fisher, Raymore
2. Jackie Marcoux, Creve Coeur
3. Bruce Snavely, Republic
4. Kathi Jantz, Columbia
5. Kenneth Heitkamp, St. Louis
6. Dolores Vivian, Bates City

Class 6: Sealed Honey, Brood Size Frame

1. Kenneth Heitkamp, St. Louis

Class 7: Sealed Honey, Shallow Honey Frame

1. Kenneth Heitkamp, St. Louis
2. Michael Godfrey, Valley Park
3. Jim Fisher, Raymore

Class 8: Candied Honey

1. Jim Fisher, Raymore
2. Kathi Jantz, Columbia

Class 9: Yellow Beeswax, approx. 3 lbs.

1. Bob Finck, Fenton
2. Kenneth Heitkamp, St. Louis
3. Jim Fisher, Raymore

Class 10: Queen and Her Bees

1. Wanda Johnston, Ferrelview
2. Tim Hyde, Wildwood

Class 11: Art Design in Beeswax

1. Jim Fisher, Raymore
2. Dolores Vivian, Bates City

Class 12: Beeswax Candles

1. Jim Fisher, Raymore



**Grand
Champion
Jim Fisher
Raymore**

Missouri State Fair Winning Club Competition Entries

Class 13: Cut Comb Honey in
Plastic Boxes

1. Jim Fisher,
Midwestern

Class 14: Round or Square
Section Comb Honey

1. Jim Fisher,
Midwestern

Class 15: Light Bulk Comb
Honey

1. Jim Fisher,
Midwestern

Class 16: Light/Amber
Extracted Honey

1. Steve Decaigney,
Midwestern
2. Matt Marciano,
Eastern
3. Jim Fisher,
Midwestern
4. Jackie Marcoux,
Eastern
5. Kenneth Heitkamp,
Eastern
6. Bob Finck, Eastern
7. Madena Bogacki,
Eastern
8. Samuel
Fahrmeier,
Midwestern

Class 17: Dark Extracted
Honey

1. Steve Decaigney,
Midwestern

2. Jim Fisher,
Midwestern
3. Jackie Marcoux,
Eastern
4. Kenneth Heitkamp,
Eastern

Class 18: Yellow Beeswax
Approx. 3 lbs.

1. Bob Finck, Eastern
2. Jim Fisher,
Midwestern
3. Kenneth Heitkamp



Let's Pay it Forward!!!!

To show appreciation for
Graceway's sponsorship of
our new meeting venue,
please bring **one** of the
following to our Monthly
Meeting to aid the city of
Raytown:

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

Place in the provided
Raytown Emergency
Assistance Program (REAP)
Bin.

www.raytownreap.org

Calendar of Events

September 11 @ 7:00 pm

Nuc Initiative Pilot Program

Bass Pro, Independence MO

September 18 @ 7:00 pm

General Meeting & Program

Graceway Church

5460 Blue Ridge Cutoff

Kansas City

October 4 @ 1:00 pm

Soap Making Party

(Limited to 5 people)

Home of Pete & Laura Fish

Parkville MO

October 23 @ 7:00 pm

General Meeting & Program

Graceway Church

5460 Blue Ridge Cutoff

Kansas City MO

November 16 @ 2:30 pm

General Meeting & Program

Graceway Church

5460 Blue Ridge Cutoff

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.

Missouri State Beekeepers Association Fall, 2014 Membership Conference October 24th - 25th

Truman Hotel & Conference Center, Jefferson City, Missouri



Grant Gillard



Fedar Lazutin



Gory 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!

- Visit With & Purchase From Major Vendors!
- Door Prizes & Raffles!
- Meet Beekeepers From Across the Region!
- Compete In Our Cooking & Beeswax Contest!

Make Your Hotel Reservations Now ...

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(573) 635-7171

\$69.00 (plus taxes) ... Be Certain to Mention You're With the MSBA

"The Major Beekeeping Event That Everyone Needs to Attend!"

Get Details, View Agenda and Register ...

www.MOStateBeekeepers.org

Honey Plants

A few days after Janice and I returned from working the State Fair in Sedalia we received an email from a club member. She wanted to know what this particular shrub was; well, I did not have a clue. After about 10 seconds of contemplation I emailed our president to see if she knew what it was (I knew she has quite a bit of knowledge about plants). The scientific name for this shrub is HYDRANGEA PANICULATA. Sounds like we should drink it I think!

1 COMMONLY KNOWN AS TARDIVA



After doing a little research on this honey bee favorite I discovered there are about 70-75 genus of hydrangea in the species. A hydrangea can be a shrub, tree, or a vine. All of the hydrangeas we see will be the shrub type. Most hydrangeas we see are native to Southeast Asia but, there are several that are native to North America in the Mid-Atlantic region. Tardiva bloom period is from July- September. Its showy white blossoms are a favorite of many pollinators. One thing to consider when contemplating using this plant in a pollinator garden is the fact that birds love it too for roosting and nesting (birds love honey bees). Tardiva prefers full sun to partial shade and is considered to require a medium amount of care and water. *WHAT BEE IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH?? Vitamin BEE*
Happy Beekeeping



Tom Britz

Sweet Tips for Honey Use

Cooking Tips

For best results, use recipes developed for using honey. When you substitute honey for granulated sugar in recipes, begin by substituting honey for up to half of the sugar called for in the recipe.

With experimentation, honey can be substituted for all the sugar in some recipes.

When substituting honey for sugar in baked goods:

- Reduce the liquid in the recipe by ¼ cup for each cup of honey used.
- Add about ½ teaspoon baking soda for each cup of honey used.
- Reduce oven temperature by 25 degrees to prevent over-browning.

For easy measuring and clean-up, coat measuring cup or spoon with cooking spray before adding honey.

-National Honey Board

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 @ \$54

Bee Culture Subscriptions Dept.

P O Box 706

Medina OH 44258

1 year @ \$25, 2 years @ \$48, 3 years @ \$69

Basic Beekeeping

Did you know that August 1st begins a new year in the world of beekeeping? Fall is a busy time.

Your fall inspection should include:

- Removing honey supers
- Checking for a good laying queen with brood in all stages: eggs, larvae and capped.
- Checking for mites and treating appropriately. The earlier you can get your treatments on for Varroa mites the better chance you have of getting healthy young bees into the hive to make it through winter.
- Protecting colonies from pests by using entrance reducers.
- Make sure your brood is in the center of the bottom hive body with honey on the sides and the top hive body should be full of honey. If it isn't, feed them sugar syrup of 2:1 ratio after Labor Day of 8 lbs sugar to ½ gallon water.
- Decide if you need to combine small colonies with a larger colony or to make nucs—*good idea to attend the September 11th meeting for wintering techniques.*
- Protect stored beeswax combs from wax moths by using moth crystals. Place newspaper between supers and shake some crystals on the paper. Be sure to air thoroughly before using next spring.
- Make sure your hives are tipped forward, just slightly so water doesn't pool and cause moisture problems

It is now recommended to not allow mite levels higher than 2% load this time of year. The math is as follows: If testing 300 bees (3 oz. about 2/3 cup or 1 ½ inch of a quart jar) and if 6 mites were counted via sugar shake, multiply by 2 if brood present and then divide by the 300 bees tested. $6 \times 2 / 300 = 12 / 300 = 4\%$. You need to treat. —Cathy Misko

From the Editor . . .

I am grateful for the informative newsletters that Tom and I have received over the course of about five years since we became members of the Midwestern Beekeepers Association.

With that said, my willingness to take over the editor duties was not because I am an experienced beekeeper, but because I am able to contribute to our club by keeping you informed.

In the August 2014 [American Bee Journal](#), Jamie Ellis, in his article, *Know Why You Keep Bees*, states that “generally, there are three recognized sizes of beekeeping operations and any size beekeeping operation can be used to generate income a number of ways.”

The three sizes are hobby beekeepers with 1 – 10 colonies; sideline/part time beekeepers with 11-200 colonies; and commercial/full time beekeepers with 200+ hives.

Regardless of operation size, beekeepers can make money with bees the following ways:

- Honey Production
- Providers of Pollination Services
- Production of Alternative Hive Products
- Queen and Package Bee Production
- Nuc/Split Production
- Make and Sell Beekeeping Equipment
- Honey Packers

In considering Jamie Ellis's remarks, it occurred to me that Midwestern Beekeepers undoubtedly have folks in all three sizes of operation that we need to serve. Additionally, we cannot focus on just one endeavor, such as honey production, but address the many endeavors that our beekeepers may be attempting.

It is my hope that we can continue to create an environment in Midwestern Beekeepers that we all have an opportunity to learn or to teach others.

-Janice Britz

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

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.

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 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.

2014 Membership Application

Check one: Renewal New Membership

Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Midwestern Beekeepers Association

Individual Membership: \$15 _____

After 7/1 \$7.50 _____

Family Membership \$18 _____

(2 voting rights)

Missouri State Beekeepers Association

Individual Membership \$15 _____

Family Membership \$20 _____

(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

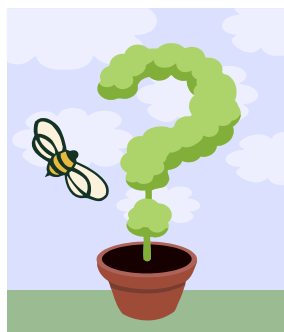
tfisher@kinglouie.com, 816-322-9245

How did you hear about the club? _____

**MIDWESTERN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
TANYA FISHER
P O BOX 132
RAYMORE MO 64083**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**NEXT MEETING DATES:
NUC INITIATIVE: 9/11/14 Bass Pro
GENERAL MEETING: 9/18/14 Graceway Church**



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!