



## Wisps of Smoke

By Cathy Misko

This cool weather is perfect for me and the gardens! Hopefully the clover will bloom again and fall flowers will flourish- all providing needed nectar for the bees! Many have needed to feed early; some colonies have stayed small and others have grown and put up a bumper crop! I hope you experienced the latter!

If fortunate to attend the August Picnic, then like me you are probably still trying to wear off all the calories from our spectacular feast. Beekeepers are excellent chefs and I am sure everyone had leftovers for Sunday's dinner. Thanks to our Honorable Honey Judges: Jean and Ed Fisher and Tom O'Neill. Congratulations to the Honey Show winners and to all the game winners. Youth Scholarship presenters Cory Webb and Claire Mc Clung gave us reason to be proud. Cory encouraged us to keep working with our bees even if we lose them for next year will be better; Claire instructed us on "What not to do in

Beekeeping." To see the long line of students that passed their test and proved mastery of beekeeping was quite a sight. All thanks to the Midwestern Beekeepers for support and giving them such an opportunity to learn beekeeping at an excellent level.

Your generous donations for the Silent Auction rang the bell topping \$486, thanks much! Whoo-hoo!

Thanks to Dean Sanders and Wanda and Wes Johnston for manning the Mo State Beekeeper's Booth at the State Fair. If you got a chance to work, then I am sure you had a blast. Peter Fish also worked the whole ten days and was rewarded by having his own honey bee face painting. That was my job...I love to paint honey bees on the kids while I teach them bee biology....Guess Pete was our biggest kid!

This year the state's cabinet at the fair was quiet thin of entries. I heard the same story from around the state, "honey was barely made for reasons of so much rain."



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

## COMING UP GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, SEP. 17, 7:00 PM

Graceway Church  
Fellowship Hall

## 2015 GENERAL MEETING

Sep. 17, (Thursday) 7:00 pm

Oct. 15, (Thursday) 7:00 pm

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](http://www.midwesternbeekeepers.org)



MidwstnBeekprsA



Midwestern Beekeeper's  
Association



Midwestern Beekeepers  
Association  
Members Closed Group

**Deadline for newsletter  
submission is the 25th of  
each month**

# 2015 Officers

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### *Wisps of Smoke Continued*

Our club did excellent and many presented award winning entries. This year the state entomologists exclaimed surprise missing entries by our famous and respected Jim Fisher. However, Individual Grand Champion was earned by another hard working and respected beekeeper and producer of numerous products...our friend from Three Rivers, Yvonne Von Der Aye! Congratulations and well deserved Yvonne.

My Missouri *Queen and her Bees* that have been on TV and displayed all over our region was given a 1<sup>st</sup> Place for the Observation Hive. All I can say is that these bees have had much experience showing off and did it again. After 10 plus days at the fair they were not welcomed back in their original hive. Upon arriving home I found many chewed out queen cells and two virgins running around. Since this queen is a second year survivor I was happy to pass on two of her daughters. The 1<sup>st</sup> Place Queen will remain in a nuc to winter so to have available for the outreach observation hive as long as I can keep it going! The other two queens hopefully will contribute to the Nuc Initiative Market Place 2016!

Heads up; while working bees today and along with other beekeepers, I found some hives had a high *adult* hive beetle load. The Beetle Blasters were full and beetles were corralled under the edges of the blasters. I have learned to firmly slide my finger across the edge of the blaster to smash beetles that are trapped before moving the frame. I jimmed a *plastic* hive cover with an excluder and filled with water and about a cup of oil measuring just *below* the metal bars. I either shook beetles off the frames or sat a frame on the rack in the sun and the little devils scrambled and then drowned in the oil. I drowned over 100 from four frames by doing this and only 5 bees succumbed to the oil. (Claire's talk recommending the Freeman Beetle Trap inspired me!) Tip: place traps in opposite corners, hives in the sun, and keep bees crowded so they can patrol the space more efficiently; if low numbers of bees, decrease their space.

Hopefully weather allows us to check the bees' mite load so we understand their health and to allow time to address the mites. From here on out we will be assuring the girls are healthy for winter while others are trying to milk out fall honey. Reducers are needed now as populations decrease along with forage. I start feeding as soon as the supers come off until I can inspect and do mite counts. I actually look forward to this time of year being curious to see how the girls fared.



I hope to see you all at the September meeting and to learn how some of our urban beekeepers tend their bees. Michael Easton, the last of our 2014 Students will also present to us. This line up should be a joy and I hope to see you there. Bring your questions, honey to be tested, and your expertise! Join us at 6:00 p.m. for networking and set up! Cathy





## September General Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 7pm



September's Midwestern Beekeepers Association meeting looks to be AMAZING! Ezekiel Amador and his team, Dr. Patrick Dobson and Mr. Roger Minniear will be presenting "Happy Hour with the Top Bar Tenders"!

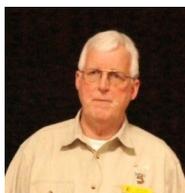
They will lead us through the different designs and the history of the various styles of beehives, then dive into the specifics of the Kenyan Top Bar Hive and Warre Hive. Included in this will be the personal experiences from installation of bees, management of the hives, harvest and overwintering. If you have ever been curious about these styles of hives, please come and join us!

Next, we have Michael Easton bringing his scholarship student presentation, "First Year in Beekeeping."

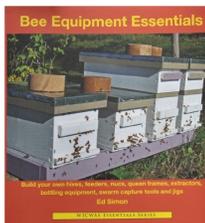
Join me earlier to chat with each other before we get started with the program! Please, remember to bring a donation for REAP. School supplies or non-perishable food is perfect!

### Library News

By Tom O'Neill



Our newest book, BEE EQUIPMENT ESSENTIALS, by Ed Simon is dedicated to Hi Gensler.



Mr. Gensler passed away recently. He was a long time member of our association, a WWII Vet and seventy two year supporter of the Boy Scouts. He was always available to help new beekeepers with their problems and getting equipment built.

This books covers the construction of all the basic parts of the hive plus many jigs and associated gadgets you probably didn't even know you couldn't live without. Stop by the library table at the next meeting and check out our selection of books and DVD's.

# 2015 Officers

## 2nd Board Member

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## Welcome New Members

Lynda & Bernie Bossert  
Belton, MO  
Coby Dougan  
Kansas City, MO  
Edward Fagan  
Kansas City, MO  
Calex Gonzales  
Lee's Summit, MO  
Jim Hansen  
Shawnee, KS  
Paul & Lynn Midgett  
Kingsville, MO  
Judith & Bryan Wolters  
Kansas City, MO



### Timely Resources to Download

'Fresh off the press'

*Tools for Varroa Management*

[http://  
honeybeehealthcoalition.org/  
varroa/](http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/)

*Oxalic Acid: Effective & Easy  
On Bees, But. . .*

by Jennifer Berry

[www.beeeculture.com/oxalic-  
acid-effective-easy-on-bees-  
but/](http://www.beeeculture.com/oxalic-acid-effective-easy-on-bees-but/)

Oxalic Acid Supplier:

[www.brushymountainbeefarm.  
com/Oxalic-Acid/  
productinfo/727/](http://www.brushymountainbeefarm.com/Oxalic-Acid/productinfo/727/)

**Certified Naturally  
Grown Guides:  
Handbook, Help  
the Honey Speak**

[www.naturallygrown.org/  
resources/for-natural-  
beekeepers](http://www.naturallygrown.org/resources/for-natural-beekeepers)



## Basic Beekeeping

By Roger Wood

- August is usually a tough month for bees here in Missouri. It is the hottest month and usually the driest. We usually will see a dearth of varying length which could start in July and carry over until the end of August or more. This year, has been different. We have had the heat, but we have also had rain. Humidity has been through the roof. This makes honey too wet, even if it is in capped comb, to harvest without some assistance. I have avoided this problem in the past by waiting until humidity levels go down and the bees have some time to drive off the excess moisture.
- The other way to drive off moisture to allow extraction, is to place the supers cross stacked in a small room with a dehumidifier and a box fan to move the drier air through the supers. Check moisture with a hydrometer.
- After extraction, put the wet frames back on the hives and let the bees clean up the honey. Then stack white comb separate from any dark comb. Wax moths are attracted to the larva cocoons left in frames that brood has been raised. It is hard to store dark comb without using chemicals during warm weather. I leave dark comb on the hives until almost first frost and then I take these empties off for winter consolidation.
- After extraction and super cleanup and storage, you want to start configuring your hives for winter, remove excess space and bring your hives to the equivalent of two deep boxes if they have been larger. Smaller hives must be evaluated as to their winter viability. There are different paths you can take and none of them are better or worse, just different. Perhaps the simplest, if you do not have a mentor, would be to combine smaller hives to make up a larger 2 box hive. The two most important elements to winter survival, assuming that food is plentiful. 1. A large proportion of the hive population are new young bees laid and hatched in the fall: September, October, and even November. 2. A large number of bees that can cover a larger patch of food during a cold spell. The first can allow even a small colony of bees to survive and the second increases the odds of the colony making it through longer stretches of cold weather without the need to move to new honey on the comb.
- A second wintering path for colonies less than two deep boxes, is to winter them in their smaller spaces (one box, or Nucs). I would suggest a mentor to help you with this path as it takes some experience of winters and colony evaluation and the relationship between space and honey stores for the colony. (You don't need 90lbs of stores to get these hives through but you still need a high percentage of younger bees, and the proper balance between space for the nest and honey stores.)

- You are working to prepare the hives for winter now. The major topics are: consolidation, pest control, disease control, feeding, and final winter prep.
- Check your hives to make sure they are queenright, healthy, and have young populations. Anything below normal or a population below a full box of bees should be addressed by either replacing the queen, combining, treating for disease or pests and supplemental feeding.
- You want to build to 4 or 5 full frames of brood some time toward the end of September and into October (for a two deep box size hive) (and barring no persistent early winter weather, i. e. 30-40 degrees day-time). Once you reach weather in the 30's or 40's, the nests will shrink and you will not be able to manipulate population. Those first few days of cold you will see many old bees carried out. It is normal but could also indicate your population is on the old side (high percentage of older bees). Your colony will lose bees throughout the winter and you will notice more on certain weeks than others, usually after a cold snap. This is still normal and nothing you can do about it. Once your hive enters winter, other than supplemental feed and mite treatment, there is not much you can do but wait for spring. Your population will naturally dwindle to the youngest bees you were able to raise in late September and October.
- You want to feed any hives that need food for the winter. Lift your boxes from the back and get a feel for weight. Look at the frames and determine how full the box is of food. You will get very good at this. Sugar syrup should be mixed at 2 parts sugar, one part water. This will require less work for the bees driving off the moisture and curing the syrup. If you have your space sized right for your colony size and you fill all excess space with food, your colony has a good chance to survive a normal winter. Winter survival is always a gamble. We can only try to increase our odds and hope. So, when you hear the advice to have 90lbs of food stored, that is relative to the size of your colony. Smaller colonies of young bees can survive with much less, larger colonies might need more. It has been my experience that larger colonies have more of everything, old bees and new bees. You will see more dead bees during the cold periods and it will dwindle in population much faster but it is all relative to the individual hive.
- Check your mite levels and treat accordingly if so inclined. I believe that if your mite levels are high at this time of year, you will lose that hive before spring buildup.
- If small hive beetle are high in number, you can lose weaker hives to their persistence. Just my opinion, if you see more than 20 adults during an inspection you should do something to help reduce that number, chemically or mechanically.
- Foul brood can get a foot hold in damp weather conditions so this year it might find you, so be on the lookout. I have never dealt with it that I know of, so I cannot offer any advice here. Goldenrod and aster nectar in the hives have a sulfur rotten egg smell that you might worry is foulbrood. New beekeepers will worry but it is normal and not disease. If you are worried, talk to the folks in the club, someone will come have a look.

*Continued on Page 7*

## Midwestern Picnic Honey Show Winners

### **Light Amber Extracted:**

1<sup>st</sup> Debbie DeCaigney  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jacqueline Janorschke

3<sup>rd</sup> Erin Mullins

### **Dark Extracted**

1<sup>st</sup> Megan Allan

2<sup>nd</sup> Dolores Vivian

### **Art Design in Beeswax**

1<sup>st</sup> Dolores Vivian



## Picnic Game Winners

### **Honey Jokes**

1<sup>st</sup> Andrew McClung and Lucy  
McClung (Tie)

### **Number of Drones**

1<sup>st</sup> Terry Wright (# 23)

### **Honey Density**

Low @ 15%, Nathan McClung

High @ 20%, Ella McClung /

Nathan McClung (Tie)

Just Right @ 16.5%, Kyle Day

### **Hive Hefting**

Too Light, Bob Harrison;

Just Right, Harold Wright

Too Heavy, Bob Harrison

### **Bee Bag Toss**

All winners received a honey stick.

### **EZ Nuc Assembly Race**

Debbie DeCaigney, Harold Wright,  
and Hank Strickland assembled the

EZ Nuc in 5min 20sec.

Debbie D. won the EZ Nuc.



## Nominating Committee is in Progress!

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

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.



## Member Spotlight

### Hector Autry

#### My Three Year Reflection

#### My First Three Years of Beekeeping



*I advise people that if they're going to start into beekeeping, to start with a Langstroth hive. You see, it never occurred to me that I could actually 'build' a Langstroth hive.*

*But, it can be done, and is done routinely. But, some will say, "Hector, your homemade Langstroth hives don't have dovetails!" To which I reply, "The bees don't care!"*

*A transition is about to take place. I'm 60 years old and have a torn rotator cuff in my right shoulder. Beekeeping is becoming harder for me, and in the summer it seems to be getting hotter in that bee suit.*

*But, I have good news. This last weekend, my friend Rod, watched with great interest as I performed my hive inspections. After I was done, and we had a chance to talk, he told me that next Spring... he's going to buy a bee suit and let me teach him beekeeping. When that happens and as he becomes more proficient, I can begin to step away.*

*It will make me very proud to look him in the eye... and hand him my hive tool.*

**-Hector Autry**

#### When did you start beekeeping and how did you become interested in bees?

After a tour of duty in Seoul, Korea, with the U.S. Air Force in the mid 1980s, I returned to the States with my family and attended a family reunion. During that visit to my father's rural property in west central Alabama, he took the time to show me his two Langstroth hives of bees.

I listened attentively as he verbally painted the picture of the fascinating life of honeybees, and the significance of all they do. He also said that a bee sting is good for arthritis and other things, and that I should get one. Most people would benefit by getting at least one bee sting per month. I inquired as to how I should go about accomplishing this, and so he walked me over to the barbed wire fence where all manner of flowering vines were growing. He smiled and pointed to a honeybee amid the blossoms.

He instructed me to simply raise my forearm from below the bee, slowly, and then when the bee comes in contact with my arm to take my comb from my back pocket and gently begin applying pressure on the bee until she stung me. I have to admit I was quite surprised at the amount of pressure I finally had to apply in order to annoy the bee enough that she would sting me. My father, Milton, then continued his instruction as he showed me to calmly use a fingernail to lift the venom sack away so as not to receive the full dose.

Dad's presentation about honeybees intrigued me, and when I left and headed back to Cameron, Missouri, where I then lived, I was confident that I could become a beekeeper. But something happened, as it seemed that every time I picked up a magazine with an article about beekeeping, there was always mention that it was 'an expensive hobby' by the time I got to the third paragraph. I realized, of course, that given my situation as the father of several children and commuting daily from Cameron to Kansas City for work, that I was in no position for the launching of 'an expensive hobby'.

Fast forward to the spring of 2012. My life had changed considerably. I was decades older, had a different wife, and was now living 50 miles east of Independence in Norborne, Missouri; a small town of 800 people which was an island of a town surrounded by an ocean of corn and soybeans. So in the Spring of 2012, I built my very own Kenya Top Bar Hive. Two weeks later, a friend of mine in Norborne named Rod Cowser, told me he owned an old house in town that was going to be torn down the following spring. There was a colony of honeybees in the wall if I wanted to come and get them. I built a bee vacuum, did the cutout...and in May of 2012...I became a beekeeper...and I was finally able to put honeybees into my homemade Kenya Top Bar Hive.

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

One of the methods I used for a while in managing my bees was the online 'Hive Tracks' software and that seems to work quite well. But, to really make that system work for you, you need to go ahead and pay the little bit extra and upgrade so you have access to additional software so that you have everything you need, especially if you have several hives. The 'best' process I have for managing my bees is reading the guidance from Certified Master Beekeeper David Burns, in Illinois. This is a significant point. When I first started watching beekeeping videos I was getting guidance from people all over the United States, England, and Australia. What I discovered over time was that the climate of all these locations were entirely different, and that if I was going to get the best advice on managing my bees, it would have to come from someone in my same part of the country, at the very least. So, for me, with Certified Master Beekeeper David Burns only one state over to the east, I'm much more comfortable following his expert advice, and he does an impressive job. He and his wife run Long Lane Honeybee Farms and the "HoneyBeesOnline.com" website. He has some excellent and simple free lessons on his website which have proven very helpful, and which I highly recommend to the new beekeeper.

### What had been the greatest hurdle in keeping bees?

As I see it, the greatest hurdle in keeping bees is the size and weight of the Langstroth hives. About a year ago I began seeing a trend which I hope continues. With fewer, newer beekeepers and older beekeepers retiring from the hobby there is one trend which can help change everything. That trend is changing to ALL 'Medium, 8-Frame' boxes. And that goes for the honey super as well as the brood chambers. The other day I was inspecting a 10-Frame hive, and after I finished inspecting the top box, I removed it so I could inspect the bottom box... and thought I was absolutely going to drop that top box before I could sit it down because it was so heavy. Once again, "The bees don't CARE if the hive is a 10 frame or an 8 frame." Well, if the bees don't care, why not make it easier on ourselves, on the younger beekeepers coming in, and on older beekeepers who now may be able to stay on for an additional one or two years if the hive boxes aren't as heavy.

### What has been your greatest success in keeping bees?

My greatest success in keeping bees was the look of pleasant surprise on my wife's face when after building my own beehive, doing a cutout and using the bee vacuum that I also built myself, bringing home bees I captured myself and then putting the bees into that hive, I could see those mental wheels turning and the thought process in her mind and the personal pride she had in me. Her face seemed to reflect the thought: "Well that's amazing. My husband actually went and captured bees himself and put them in the hive he built."

### Where are your bees located:

I have both a Langstroth hive and a Kenya Top Bar Hive in my back yard. I also have a Langstroth hive near the Norborne water tower, and I also manage a Top Bar Hive owned by my friend Rod Cowsert, who is a woodworker who has built several Top Bar Hives.

- Time to check water tightness in your boxes and lids. Dry bees can survive very cold temperatures but wet bees cannot survive 40 degrees. Water tightness does not mean air tight. Be sure there is good ventilation. You want the hives to be open for fresh air but not direct wind. It's your choice to have screened bottom boards or not. Bees can survive either way if dry and not exposed to direct wind drafts.
- Prevent robbing. Close down your entrances. Mouse guards if you have field mice.
- If possible, your apiary location should be out of direct prevailing winds or have winter wind blocks. It should be sunny all day. The entrances should be pointed away from those winter winds. If you have solid bottoms, the hives should slope forward slightly to allow water to run out.



## Support Apimondia US Bid 2019

The United States has the unparalleled opportunity to bring the worldwide beekeeping community to our back yard. Winning the bid for the *Apimondia Worldwide Beekeeping Congress in 2019* is the perfect way to showcase our industry as never before. Representatives from our chosen host city, Minneapolis, MN, will join the United States delegation in Daejeon, South Korea, to support the effort to acquaint the world with the many advantages of the United States hosting The Apimondia Congress.

[www.apimondiausabidfor2019.org](http://www.apimondiausabidfor2019.org)





**SEDALIA  
AUG 13-23 2015**

## Midwestern 2015 MO State Fair Apiculture Show Results

Congratulations to ALL who let the “bees brag” and entered “products of the hive” into the Missouri State Fair. Big applause to those who brought home ribbons!

### Individual Competition

#### Class 4:

#### *Light Amber Extracted Honey*

1<sup>st</sup> Melanie Avery  
3<sup>rd</sup> Steve DeCaigney

#### Class 8:

#### *Candied Honey*

1<sup>st</sup> Steve DeCaigney

#### Class 9:

#### *Yellow Beeswax*

3<sup>rd</sup> Beth Avery

#### Class 10:

#### *Queen and Her Bees*

1<sup>st</sup> Cathy Misko

### Group Competition

#### Class 16:

#### *Light Extracted Honey*

2<sup>nd</sup> Steve DeCaigney  
7<sup>th</sup> Cathy Misko

#### Class 17:

#### *Dark Extracted Honey*

1<sup>st</sup> Steve DeCaigney

“Competitions can show you where you are, where you have been, and where you want to be in the future.”



## Honey Plants

By Tom Britz



My, what a year we have experienced! From cold and wet to hot and dry—welcome to the Midwest! This month I’d like to briefly talk about a couple of different things. The first, most of us wouldn’t be able to do—bee pastures. Honey bee pastures have been around for a long time. A bee pasture is just what it sounds to be, a few acres where bees are attracted to a particular plant. The plant I am excited about is Sanfoin.

Sanfoin is a perennial legume that can thrive for decades with not much maintenance. It also has a use as livestock forage or hay with nutrient levels that rival the famous Alfalfa plant. Sanfoin is very drought resistance and can be grazed by cattle without the worry of bloat because of the levels of tannins. It has been said bees work Sanfoin up to 10 times more than white/yellow sweet clover because of its high levels of pollen and nectar. You can read more about Sanfoin in the September issue of Bee Culture.



Here is a link to the USDA NRCS plant guide: [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/idpmcpg7792.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/idpmcpg7792.pdf)

Next, I want to mention some of the honey plants in bloom now:

#### Garden Plants:\*

Giant Hyssop (Agastache Mexicana)  
English Ivy (Hedera Helix)  
Seven Son Flower (Heptacodium Miconioides)  
PeeGee Hydrangea (Hydrangea Paniculata)  
Morning Glory (Ipomea Purpurea)  
Maackia (Maackia Amurensis)  
Chinese Sumac (Rhus Chinensis)  
Sage (salvia ‘Indigo Spires’)  
Stonecrop (Sedum Spectabile)  
Stonecrop (Sedum ‘Autumn Joy’)

#### Natives & Crops:\*\*

Mustard (Oct)  
Cucumber (Sep)  
Alfalfa (Sep)  
Clovers (Oct)  
White Dutch (Oct)  
Golden Rod (Oct)  
Asters (Oct)  
Sunflowers (Oct)

\*Garden Plants for Honey Bees by Peter Lindtner

\*\*The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Happy Beekeeping

Tom



## Conferences & Events

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



Michael Bush

Plus More Exciting Speakers To Be Announced SOON!

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

[www.mostatebeekeepers.org](http://www.mostatebeekeepers.org)



Michael Bush is one of the leading proponents of treatment free beekeeping. He has been keeping bees since the mid 70's, usually from two to seven hives up until the year 2000. Varroa forced more experimentation which required more hives and the number has grown steadily over the years from then. By 2008 it was about 200 hives. He is active on many of the Beekeeping forums with last count at more than 50,000 posts between all of them. He has had an eclectic set of careers from printing and graphic arts, to construction to computer programming and a few more in between. Currently he is working in computers. He has a web site on beekeeping at [www.bushfarms.com/bees.htm](http://www.bushfarms.com/bees.htm). Please check out his books via <http://www.amazon.com/Michael-Bush/e/B005G60224>



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AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

<http://>

[www.americanbeejournal.com/](http://www.americanbeejournal.com/)

## Bee Culture

The Magazine of American Beekeeping

<http://www.beeeculture.com/>

September 22-25, 2015

American Royal

School Tours

Come and work with Kansas City's youth at the American Royal. Last year 4,000 kids heard about their State Insect (KS&MO) during this crash presentation! To volunteer (660) 656-3485

[www.americanroyal.com/events/2015/school-tours](http://www.americanroyal.com/events/2015/school-tours)

September 26, 2015

St. Louis Bee Speaks Series

Mead Making, Tasting and more.

[www.honeyfestivals.com](http://www.honeyfestivals.com)

October 16-17, 2015

MO State Beekeepers

Association Fall

Membership Conference

Hilton Garden Center, Columbia,

Guest: Michael Bush

Beekeeping Naturally

[www.mostatebeekeepers.org](http://www.mostatebeekeepers.org)

October 30-31, 2015

Kansas Honey Producers

McPherson KS

Guest: Judy Wu Smart

Effects of Neonicotinoids

[www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://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](http://www.abfnet.org)



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Specialty Crop Site Registry  
[www.driftwatch.org](http://www.driftwatch.org)



# Nuc Initiative

Stuart Dietz

## Basic Seasonal Nuc Checks

### Mature Colony

- Remove Excluder and Honey Supers
  - Feed if Dearth 1:2 Light Syrup
  - Winter Bees are in Production
  - Check for Requeening
  - Small Hive Beetle Traps
  - Powdered Sugar Dusting if Appropriate\*
  - Provide Water
- \*Use mite treatment of your choice

### August

### Nuc

- Add 2<sup>nd</sup> Box for Food Chamber
- Use Drawn Comb
- Check Mites
- Treat for Mites if Appropriate\*
- Small Hive Beetle Traps ON
- Reducer ON
- Feed 1:2 Light Syrup
- Provide Water

### Mature Colony

- Continue Feeding until 65 Pounds Stored
- Powder Sugar Dusting if Appropriate\*
- Mite Testing
- Small Hive Beetle Traps On
- Check for Marked Queen

### September

### Nuc

- Feed until Top Box Full
- Mite Test
- Assure Marked Queen
- Reducer, SHB Trap ON

### Mature Colony

- Feed Heavy Syrup 2:1
- Brood in Bottom
- Assure Marked Queen
- SHB Trap over Brood/Cluster for Winter

### Early October

### Nuc

- Feed Heavy Syrup 2:1
- Share Extra Honey from Mature Colonies
- Align Brood in Center
- Assure Marked Queen

The image below is one way of wintering a nuc above a full-strength colony.

The colonies can be united using newspaper, but with a queen excluder on top of the newspaper to preserve both queens, and wood splines to provide winter ventilation for the strong lower colony and an entrance for the nuc.

This combining would ideally be completed by mid-September.

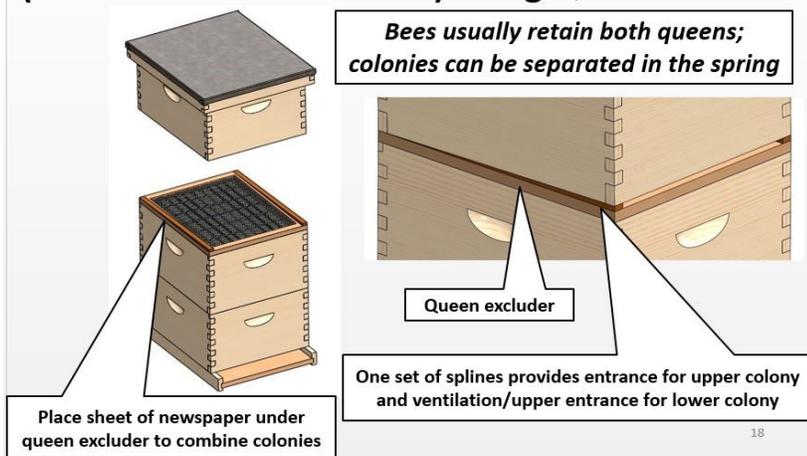
The **precautions** are making sure they are **very heavy** with food with a **strong** population in the lower colony so the lower queen is not abandoned below the excluder during the winter.

This arrangement improves the chances of the upper colony/nuc surviving the winter in good condition. In the spring, the nuc/single-story colony can be put on its own bottom board to build into a full-strength colony.

Note: When wintering in 5-frame nuc boxes not above a strong colony, place the nucs directly adjacent each other for protection. With several nucs, long continuous rows can be made this way.

-Stuart

### Wintering Above Full-Strength Colony With Very Weak (*but healthy & with good queen*) Colony (3-4 frames of bees or less) Using Queen Excluder



<http://www.honey.com/blog/2015/detail/celebrating-honeys-versatility-with-sweet-giveaways-during-national-honey-m>

# MARKETPLACE



MEMBERS OF MIDWESTERN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION CAN ADVERTISE FOR FREE IN THE NEWSLETTER! 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](http://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



## 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. Pick up by appointment only

## 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](mailto:jim.fisher@fishersbeesupplies.com)**

Do you need your honey supers extracted? Contact Jim 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](mailto: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](http://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.



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### General Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 7 pm  
Graceway Church Fellowship Hall  
Bring your honey to test for density  
[www.midwesternbeekeepers.org](http://www.midwesternbeekeepers.org)



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](mailto:DDetailsfish@gmail.com) 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*