

COMING UP

JUNE
GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JUN 10, 2018

Bass Pro Shop
Independence MO
2:00 PM
Q&A Session for
Beginning Beekeepers
2:30 PM
General Meeting



FIELD DAY
ROBERT HUGHES OF
JORDY'S HONEY
3 PM
SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018



June Q & A

By Phil Duncan, President

For the Good of the Bees

By Phil Duncan, President



Thank you to all those who contributed to the Youth Scholarship fundraiser held during our May meeting. Nita Dietz did a great job securing donations from many vendors. Several members brought items for the auction also. Thank you to those who worked to get everything set up on time.

The meeting started off with Stuart Dietz leading a Q & A session. Next, Anna Johnson, 2016 YS student, gave a presentation entitled "Plan B(ee)" which detailed some of her experiences with her bees. After Anna's presentation, 2016 YS student, Ashley Wilton, presented "My Year in Beekeeping." At the



Photo by Janice Britz

conclusion both young ladies were presented with their certificates of completion by their mentor, Cathy O'Bryan Misko.

Dennis Culpepper gave a presentation on controlling small hive beetles. After his presentation, drawings were held for the raffle prizes. All in all, it was a great meeting with lots of money raised for our Youth Scholarship program. I noted many people visiting and discussing our favorite topic, bees. Thank you to everyone who attended.

If you run into problems, talk to your mentor or other experienced members. I am quite certain that others have run into the same problems you encounter.

Keep educating yourself regarding beekeeping and beekeeping equipment. There are many resources available both through our organization's library and at your local public library.

If you haven't done so already, please inform your friends and neighbors that it is swarm season and how MBA can help. Tell them about MBA's [swarm list](#), which is one way MBA empowers others to protect honey bees.

I look forward to seeing you at our June meeting. Until then take time to sit and observe your bees coming and going on a sunny afternoon.

Q: My bees aren't following the rules in the beekeeping books. What should I do?

A: Unfortunately, bees have not read any of the books. If you run into problems, talk to your mentor or other experienced members. I am quite certain that others have run into the same problems you encounter.



Welcome New Members

By Terry Wright



June General Meeting
Sunday, June 10, 2018
Bass Pro Shop at Independence MO

Jim Watkins
Pleasant Hill, MO
Donna Colombo
Raytown, MO
Mark Elliott
Holt, MO



Youth Scholarship

By Nita Dietz



Thank you to all who made the Youth Scholarship Silent Auction and Plant Sale a huge success!

Here are the results:

- \$950 silent auction
- \$133 donations
- \$48 plant sale
- \$396 raffles

Thank you to these businesses for their donations:

Jordy's Honey
Crooked Hill Beekeeping LLC
A.I. Root Co
American Beekeeping Federation
B & B Honey Farm
BetterBee Inc
Blue Sky Supply
Brushy Mountain Bee Farm, Inc
Dadant & Sons, Inc
Garden City Plastics
Hardeman Apiaries
Kelly Co
Koehnen & Son's, Inc
Mann Lake, Ltd
Queen Right Colonies
Rossman Apiaries
Sailor Plastics
Roberts Bee Co



2:00 PM
Q & A Session
2:30 PM

Jim & Cindy Connell, presenting
"Extracting your Honey"
MBA's extracting equipment
will be on display.



July Annual Picnic
Sunday, July 15, 2018
Fleming Park Meeting Hall

Fleming Park Meeting Hall
21906 Woods Chapel Road
Blue Springs, MO 64015

Bring your lawn chairs and join us for a time of good food and fellowship at our annual picnic.

Meat, bread, drinks and paper goods will be provided.

Please bring a side dish and dessert to share.

Midwestern Beekeepers Association (MBA) Honey Extractor Rental Policies & Guidelines



Honey Plants By Luanne Oneal

The MBA owns honey extracting equipment which is available for the use of MBA active paid members only, for a nominal rental fee. Equipment is a Mann Lake's Deluxe 6/3 Frame Side Hand Crank Extractor, Product Code HH190, cold uncapping knife, Plastic Uncapping Tank and strainer set. Rental period shall not exceed two (2) consecutive days. All reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis.

Equipment pick-up time and location will be provided when reservations are confirmed.

Accountability and Care of Extractor Equipment

- This equipment is for member use only. Do not pass the equipment to other beekeepers as you are responsible for its condition and would forfeit your deposit regardless of condition of unit.
- Rental Fee is \$10 per day with a maximum rental period of two days. There is a Cash Deposit of \$50 required at the time of pickup of equipment. If the equipment is returned clean and undamaged the refund, minus the rental cost will be returned.
- If the extractor and equipment is not returned clean, then the deposit will not be returned.
- Any damage is the responsibility of the member who is renting the equipment and will be billed to renter. Replacement of extractor is \$470, plus shipping. Please handle all equipment with care!
- Do not allow children to handle, operate, or play with or near extracting equipment.
- Dents and scratches reduce the life and performance of the equipment. Protect all of the equipment from damage and excessive wear.
- Members renting the equipment will need to provide their own food-grade honey pail to be placed under the extractor's honey gate.
- MBA is not responsible for any injury resulting from use of the equipment.

You can rent the honey extractor and equipment by contacting Stuart and Nita Dietz at (785) 304-5905. Pickup and return of the honey extractor and equipment will be at Independence, Missouri.



Library News By John Martin

To make a request, go to [MBA's library](#), and choose your book or video. Contact John Martin at jmartin98@comcast.net or 816-726-6371 to make your request. John will bring your requested items to the next General Meeting.

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

Thank-you Stuart Dietz for the following honey plants information.



Black locust, White Dutch clover, yellow & white sweet clover, wild cucumber, & blue vine, and sometimes linden (basswood)

Photo by Luanne Oneal

will provide an intense flow in May

or June, for about 10 days. Field crops would be alfalfa, some varieties of soybean, sunflowers and occasionally buckwheat. Canola is more prevalent in Kansas, but there may be fields in Missouri. Of course, there are many other minor sources as well. Bird's-foot trefoil also yields a midsummer yellow honey.



Photo by Ezekiel Amador

On May 19, 2018, Ezekiel Amador participated in the Central Youth Services 10th Anniversary Party at the Kansas City Central Library.



Basic Beekeeping

By Kyle Day, MSBA Honey Ambassador

June: The only consistent thing about bees is their inconsistency -Dr. C.C. Miller

With this bee season seemingly to be buzzing by, it brings us to June, which is usually our last full month of our main nectar flow. Normally this is true for most of our area, but timing can vary as much as two weeks, give or take. The keys to the clover flow are soil moisture and sunny days. If summer heat comes early in June and the rains stop, the soil moisture will dry up and the nectar will slow or stop, even though the clovers are still in bloom. There can also be a difference in bloom time between city locations and rural locations, even if they are in close proximity. The best advice I can give you, is to talk to experienced beekeepers whose hives are close to yours and they can tell you their opinion on this year's bloom. Another great way to track blooming periods in your location is to keep a bloom calendar and record when you first see plants bloom and bees bringing in nectar and when they quit. After a few years you will know within a few days when plants will bloom in your area.

Continue to stay ahead of your colony's needs, and add honey supers as long as the bees are collecting nectar. The rate at which bees need space varies by the strength (numbers) of the hive and the flow intensity. A full box of bees (1 deep brood box) equals about 25,000 bees. That number is approximately the threshold number for a hive to begin to have enough surplus bees to collect surplus honey. If you just started your hive four weeks ago, you have just completed your first brood cycle and the numbers of bees will have increased by about half. Most likely, your colony will fill one full deep brood box (or two mediums, if you are going that route) before the end of our spring flow and you may struggle to completely fill a second full brood box. This happens more than not, so do not worry. You may need to feed sugar syrup to help finish comb. Bees will not look at unfinished comb and decide they better finish pulling those frames. They need a reason that makes sense in their world, and feeding is the only way to get the bees to "think" like you do.

Feeding sugar syrup will help to finish building comb. Moving partial combs to stronger or faster comb building hives will allow you to complete frames before the nectar runs out. Nectar flow can turn off overnight, so try to avoid putting on new foundation or empty frames the last of June, if you can. It is not the end of the world if they only partially work that last super, but it is a bit of a nuisance to deal with partial combs with some nectar stored in them. Sharing comb between hives means sharing health between hives, good or bad. If you suspect virus or AFB/EFB in any hives, sharing those combs would be a bad idea. Dispose of comb coming from a sick hive and replace with new frames and only add comb from a healthy hive. Honestly, I think if your hives are in the same location, it is wishful thinking to believe your hives have not already shared these diseases. However, it is a good practice to sterilize your hive tools, frame grips, brush, frames, and gloves between checking hives.

If you have gotten honey this year, it's time to start thinking about harvesting honey. Remove and extract any supers of well-ripened honey. Some folks will run out of boxes or the hive stack is too high to work so they will extract to reuse or reduce the stack. A rule of thumb is if the frame is capped, the honey is ripe. However, checking the actual moisture content is the only way to know for sure. Refractometers will be available at general meetings in the upcoming months. That said, I personally have never measured my honey's moisture content. I have always followed these tips and I have never had an issue. The second rule of thumb is that you can extract a frame with open cells of honey, if over 50% of the cells are capped. You can expand this to include the ratio between all frames rather than by the frame. So if you have one fully capped frame and one only one fourth capped, you can extract both frames and your moisture content should be ok. The last tip is turn the frame on it's side with the open cells facing down and shake. If nectar drips out it is not ripe enough. Because we have some very humid summers, the bees may not cap their honey due to the high humidity. We will talk more about extracting next month.

It's also time to begin thinking about your varroa mite populations. Their numbers have been growing all spring and once you have your honey off, you can sample the brood nest more easily. Your mite count is too high if 50 or more mites drop on a sticky board in a 24-hour period or three mites per 100 bees are found using a sugar shake or alcohol wash. Like always, if you have any questions, get in touch with mentors, MBA board members, or you can email me at

kyle.day.1999@gmail.com.



Beekeeping for the 2nd Year Beekeeper and Beyond

By Kyle Day, MSBA Honey Ambassador
June: Keeping Strong Hives and Summer Splits



June Beekeeping Quick List

- Check blooms and learn blooming seasons
- Stay ahead of your colonies
- Make sure all frames in brood boxes are drawn out
- Start preparing to harvest honey
- Plan mite checks
- Keep hives strong and check for pests and diseases
- Add honey supers as needed
- Look into the possibility of summer splits



Do you need someone to call to answer a question about your hives? Get your copy of the MBA's Members Directory at the General Meetings!



Conferences & Events

September 25-28, 2018



American Royal
School Tours
Hale Arena

Kansas City, MO

Volunteers Needed

Contact *Janice Britz* at

britzjs@gmail.com

[American Royal School Tours](#)



October 19-20, 2018

Missouri State
Beekeepers Association
Fall Conference



Truman State University
Kirksville, MO

[MSBA](#)

As June is our last month of the main nectar flow, keep adding on supers as needed. We want to make sure our hives are strong and healthy. If you have an over-wintered or start-up hive from mid-April that is not a full ten (or 8) frames of bees and working strong in a second box, then you might want to consider replacing that queen. You have just given her the best month of the year to expand the hive, and if she didn't put a dent in that plan, she won't improve. This is a hard lesson to learn and I still hesitate to make this decision, even though I know this hive needs a queen change. If this is the second season for your queen, you might also consider replacing her. Keeping, or more accurately, relying on a queen longer than two seasons is a gamble.

Once you harvest honey, make sure to check mites and keep an eye out for small hive beetles. Usually, if my hives have three or more mites per 100 bees I will go ahead and treat.

If your hives are strong and you want to make some splits, June is the time to do it before it's too late. Usually, once I take honey off the hives and treat for mites, I will look at my hives to see if making splits are possible without hurting the parent colony. There are plenty of ways to make splits. You can buy mated queens or make your own through grafting, OTS queen rearing, or many other options. If you're going to be making your own queens, it will take a lot of work to get them prepared for winter. If I am making splits this late, I plan on feeding them. If I don't already have a lot of drawn comb, I plan on overwintering them in singles or double nucs like beekeeper, Michael Palmer. His method is using a 10-frame box split in half with a board and has a modified bottom board so each side has an entrance on opposite sides, as they build up, add two 5 frame nuc boxes as "honey supers" on top to add space for them to have winter feed. This way both hives share heat, but you will have to feed and add sugar to them during winter. This is a great way to have some extra hives when next spring comes around, but they take a lot of management. It usually takes a couple of years to get the process right and get a 100% survival rate, if you're lucky. It can provide the possibility of selling overwintered nucs to other beekeepers. There are many different ways to overwinter nucleus colonies and the best thing to do is research different methods and see what would work best with your management practices. I usually follow the OTS queen rearing method when I have the equipment available; but in beekeeping, there are a lot of different ways to do things and you will have to find what works with your style of beekeeping. If you have any questions feel free to email me at kyle.day.1999@gmail.com



[Honey Bee Health Coalition](#)

Market Place



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. Deliveries at Cameron, MO every Tuesday from 6-7 pm. Please call first.



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

www.beekeepers.com

We are open Monday-Friday 8AM-4PM and weekends by appointment. To see our full line of beekeeping products, visit Beekeepers.com. Easy store pickup available to save on shipping. Visit BeePackages.com to order Bee Packages for a Kansas City Pickup. For Queens go to QueenBees.com.



Jim Fisher 816-918-6648

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

Missouri State Fair

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

Jim Reeves is going to work this year with Dean Sanders, Missouri State Beekeepers Association State Fair Chair, and Jim will take over as State Fair Chair for the following year. Volunteers are needed to work in the MSBA booth at the fair. Midwestern Beekeepers will not have a monthly meeting in August and you are encouraged to participate in the state fair by working in the booth or submitting fair entries.

Fair entries are due by 5 pm on August 6th in the Agricultural Building of the state fairgrounds. For your convenience, Midwestern Beekeepers will have a drop-off site for your entries and will deliver and return your fair entries for you. Entry forms will be available May 10th. Entries can be entered via online registration, or by downloading the entry blank and submitting via mail, in person or by fax to 660-827-8169 or 660-827-8160.

[Apiculture Rules and Classes](#)
[How to Enter Premium Guide](#)



Community America Credit Union Transactions 4/26/2018 through 5/25/2018	
Checking Account Balance as of April 26, 2018	\$ 6,115.21
Savings Account Balance as of April 26, 2018	\$ 5,121.00
Total Receipts Deposited	\$ 1,958.00
Total Expenses Paid	\$ -298.96
Dividends from Savings & Checking	\$ 0.47
Checking Account Balance: May 25, 2018	\$ 7,774.51
Savings Account Balance: May 25, 2018	\$ 5,121.21

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



**AMERICAN
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 member subscription rates

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The Magazine of American Beekeeping

[http://www.bee-culture.com/
 magazine/](http://www.bee-culture.com/magazine/)
 (800) 289-7668



<http://www.heartlandbees.org/>



- **Dr. May Berenbaum**, Entomology department head at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, whose research focuses on the chemical interactions between herbivorous insects and their host-plants.
- **Dr. Marla Spivak**, a MacArthur Fellow at University of Minnesota's Bee Lab.
- **University of Minnesota Bee Squad**, a beekeeping instructional and public outreach program to encourage collaboration and public education about bees.
- **Dr. Keith Delaplane**, director of the University of Georgia Honey Bee Program.
- **Jennifer Berry**, University of Georgia Honey Bee program lab manager.
- **Dr. Dennis vanEngelsdorp**, University of Maryland Honeybee Lab, who directs the Bee Informed Partnership, the Tech Transfer Program and the annual national beekeeping management surveys.
- **Samuel Ramsey**, University of Maryland PhD candidate and researcher.
- **Additional HAS 2018 speakers**, in alphabetical order:
- **Pete Berthelsen**, Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund Partnership Coordinator, President Conservation Blueprint LLC and wildlife biologist.
- **Dr. Dewey Caron**, Emeritus Professor of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware, and Affiliate Professor, Dept. Horticulture Oregon State University
- **Phil Craft**, retired KY state apiarist (from 1999 through 2011.) He is a past president and past chairman of the Heartland Apicultural Society, past program chairman of Eastern Apicultural Society and past president of the Apiary Inspectors of America.
- **Krispn Given**, Purdue University Department of Entomology Apiculture Specialist, Vice President Indiana Urban Pollination Project. Vice President. Heartland Honey Bee Breeders Cooperative.
- **Dr. Jeff Harris**, Extension/Research Apiculturist at Mississippi State University.
- **Ana Heck**, University of Minnesota Bee Squad bee lab Program Manager.
- **Dr. Tammy Horn Potter**, KY State Apiarist and author "*Bees in America: How the Honeybee Shaped a Nation*", a compilation and study of fact, folklore and history of the honey bee.
- **Dr. Greg Hunt** is Emeritus Professor of Entomology Purdue University and Trustee for the Foundation for the Preservation of the Honey Bee.
- **Bridget Mendel Lee**, University of Minnesota Bee Squad Project Coordinator and Grant Writer.
- **Martin Marklin**, Hand-carved Liturgical candle maker and beekeeper from Contoocook, New Hampshire, Martin took up beekeeping as a sideline to his main candle business.
- **Becky Masterman**, University of Minnesota Bee Squad Associate Director.
- **Dr. Jim Tew**, Beekeeping Specialist for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Auburn University and Emeritus Professor, The Ohio State University.
- **Jenny Warner**, a founding member of the UMN Bee Squad.
- **Dr. Tom Webster**, Apiculture Extension Specialist and Adjunct Faculty, Kentucky State University
- **Kent Williams**, past president Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS), EAS master beekeeper maintaining apiaries in KY and southern Mississippi.





RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Terry Wright
9203 South Litchford
Grain Valley MO 64029

**JUNE GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018
BASS PRO SHOP
INDEPENDENCE MO
2:00 PM
Q&A SESSION FOR
BEGINNING BEEKEEPERS
2:30 PM
GENERAL MEETING**

*IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER ON THE
DAY OF A MEETING, PLEASE CHECK OUR
WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, OR CALL AN OFFICER.*

Membership dues are \$15 per year for an individual, prorated for new members after July 1st to \$7.50. Family membership available. Membership is open to all people interested in beekeeping and entitles you to our monthly newsletter, free 30 day loan of books from our extensive library, discounts on bee journals, the right to free non-commercial advertising in the newsletter, plus the opportunity to attend our informative monthly meetings. Members of Midwestern Beekeepers Association can advertise for free in the newsletter! Commercial Vendors may advertise for \$25 per year plus your annual or lifetime membership. Contact Janice Britz, Editor, at britzjs@gmail.com, to place your ad.



midwesternbeekeepers.org



Membership/Renewal



MidwstnBeekprsA



Midwestern Beekeeper's
Association



Midwestern Beekeepers
Association
Members Closed Group

2018 GENERAL MEETINGS

Jul 15, 2018, Picnic-
Fleming Park, 2:30 PM

*No August Meeting-
Missouri State Fair*

Sep 16, 2018, 2:30 PM

Oct 21, 2018, 2:30 PM

Nov 18, 2018, 2:30 PM

Dec 16, 2018, 2:30 PM