

COMING UP

For the Good of the Bees

By Phil Duncan, President



If you attended the Missouri State Fair, I hope you took time to visit the Missouri State Beekeepers Association booth. The day I worked there were lots of people buying the ice cream that was made with honey as well as containers of honey. There seemed to be a lot of interest in beekeeping from those who stopped by to visit.

It is hard to believe that summer is winding down. I had a chance to extract a few weeks ago and will be doing a final extraction within the week as I write this. It is time to start prepping your hives for winter. For those of you who have started beekeeping this year, it will be to your advantage to talk to experienced members and find out what you need to be doing. Do not be surprised if you get a wide range of answers as each hive is unique. For me, I am making sure the hives will be ventilated and the inner cover insulated with 2" of foil backed Styrofoam. My goal is to make sure the underside of the inner cover never gets cold enough that moisture condenses and drips on the cluster. Bees can handle being cold but they can't survive if they are cold and wet.

As far as insulating your hives with a wrap, I have not found that it is necessary in our area. Protecting your hives from a cold north wind will be based on the type of hives you have and your location. I have both top bar hives and Langs. Last winter my top bar hives had no protection other than the entrances facing south. There was a lot of thermal mass of comb and honey on the north ends of the hives. My bees came through with no problems.

For my Langs, I will be putting up a wind break. Ask others what they use to lessen the impact of wind on their hives.

If you have youngsters who are interested in the Youth Scholarship program, the application is due October 31st. The application is included in this newsletter.

Officer elections are coming up. If you are interested in running for a position, please talk to one of the board members.

I look forward to seeing a lot of members at the September meeting. Dennis Culpepper has a great program lined up with Andy Nowachek talking about winter preparations and Will Pryor and Trevor Norton doing youth scholarship presentations to earn their certification.

SEPTEMBER
GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, SEP 16, 2018
BASS PRO SHOP
INDEPENDENCE MO

2:00 PM

Q&A SESSION FOR
BEGINNING BEEKEEPERS
2:30 PM

GENERAL MEETING



YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS DUE
OCTOBER 31, 2018
APPLICATION IN
NEWSLETTER AND
ON [MBA WEBSITE](#)



SEPTEMBER 25-28, 2018
AMERICAN ROYAL
SCHOOL TOURS
HALE ARENA
KANSAS CITY MO
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS
FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 19-20, 2018
TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY
KIRKSVILLE, MO

MSBA MEMBER REGISTRATIONS
SUBMITTED [ONLINE](#) & BEFORE
SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 WILL RE-
CEIVE A \$10 DISCOUNT



2018 GENERAL MEETINGS
Oct 21, 2018, 2:30 PM
Nov 18, 2018, 2:30 PM
Dec 16, 2018, 2:30 PM



September General Meeting
 Sunday, September 16, 2018
 Bass Pro Shop at Independence MO

Welcome New Members
 By Terry Wright



2:00 PM
Q&A Session for Beginning Beekeepers
2:30 PM

Andy Nowachek, presenting
“Winter Hive Preparation”
Will Pryor & Trevor Norton
Youth Scholarship Presentations



Honey Extractor Rental

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.



Community America Credit Union Transactions for July 26, 2018 to August 25, 2018	
Checking Account Balance: July 26, 2018	\$ 7,236.11
Savings Account Balance: July 26, 2018	\$ 5,121.98
Total Receipts Deposited	\$ 0.00
Total Expenses Paid	\$ -221.04
Dividends from Savings & Checking	\$ 0.96
Checking Account Balance: August 25, 2018	\$ 7,015.38
Savings Account Balance: August 25, 2018	\$ 5,122.63

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



September 25-28, 2018
American Royal School Tours
Hale Arena, Kansas City, MO

Thank you for those who have signed up! Can you spare four hours from 8am to noon, the week of September 25-28, 2018, to help in our MBA booth, teaching area youth about beekeeping? If you can, we need you! Contact Janice Britz at britzjs@gmail.com to sign up.

[American Royal School Tours](#)

Tammy Parish
 Gower, MO
Paige Baker
 Lone Jack, MO



Nominating Committee for 2019 Officers



If you would like to serve on the Nominating Committee or become an officer, please contact Phil Duncan at 816-835-7686. We are seeking people for the offices of Third Vice President/ Editor, Secretary, Director and Honey Plants.



As of spring 2018, many experts are using a threshold of 3% infestation (3 mites / 100 bees, or 9 mites in your 1/2 cup sample.)

If you have greater than 3% infestation your hive is likely in trouble – if you can count mites in the double digits, you should take action on that hive.



2018 North American Mite-A-Thon

Saturday, September 8 to Saturday, September 15, 2018

[Mite-A-Thon](#) is a tri-national effort to collect mite infestation data across North America within a one week window.



Preparing for Winter

You've got to be ahead of your bees!

By Kyle Day, MSBA Honey Ambassador

Winter is coming soon and with Missouri weather, we never know what to expect. Hopefully you are already starting to do the things we covered last month. This month, we are basically expanding on those topics and adding a couple things to our to-do list.

The most important thing to do is **check for mites**, even if you're "treatment-free," "natural," or someone who just got bees last week. There is no reason for any beekeeper not to do a fall mite check. A successful beekeeper, no matter what management practices, will know his/her hive's mite levels. One of the first questions that will be asked (or that you should ask yourself) next spring is what your mite levels were?. This will help other beekeepers determine a cause should your hives not make it through winter. Next spring when you're looking for hives to split and make queens, you will want to pick those hives with the lowest mite counts and think about requeening those hives with high mite counts. Again, I will not tell you which mite check method to use. The debate on alcohol vs. powdered sugar method is a great one and you will see a lot of debate on this topic on social media and beekeeping groups right now. The biggest thing regardless which one you use, is to use it correctly and know your mite threshold. The threshold number is 3% infestation rate. That is, 3 mites per 100 bees or 9 mites for 1/2 cup of bees (300 bees.) So anything over this would need to be treated.

For winter, you need a healthy colony. A healthy colony is made up of three things: a good queen, low pest numbers, and plenty of pollen and nectar for food.

Assuming you have done mite checks and food is plentiful, the next important thing is hive population. A large proportion of your hive population should be new young bees laid and hatched in the fall, September through early November. Next, you should have a large enough population that can cover a larger patch of food during a cold spell.

Check your hives to make sure they are queenright and healthy. 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 four or five full frames of brood some time toward the end of September and into October (for a two deep box size hive) as long as the winter weather doesn't come early. Once we reach weather in the 30's or 40's, the cluster will shrink, and you will not be able to manipulate population. Those first few days of cold weather you will see many old bees carried out. It is normal but can also indicate your population is on the old side. Bees will die 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 feeding, there is not much you can do but wait for spring. Your population will naturally dwindle to the youngest bees that were raised in late September and October. You want to feed any hives that you think will need food for the winter. Lift your boxes from the back and get a feel for the weight. Also look at the frames and determine how full the box is of stores. If food is needed, sugar syrup should be mixed at two parts sugars to one-part water. This thick syrup will require less work for the bees driving off the moisture. A lot of beekeepers suggest a hive's weight should be anywhere from 60 lbs. all the way to 90 lbs. But its all based of the size of your colony.

I like to prevent robbing by reducing entrances and adding mouse guards as a precaution. If possible, your hive(s) 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.

Like always, feel free to contact me with any questions you have at kyle.day.1999@gmail.com, your mentors, or contact any of the club officers, or bring your questions to the next meeting. This time is very important because what happens in the next few months can make or break a hive in the fast approaching winter months.

September Quick List



- Mite Checks
- Prepare healthy colonies for winter
- Think about if you need wind breaks and plan to set them up
- Start looking for books/classes/conference to take over the winter/spring

Honey Plants

By Luanne ONeal



Honey Bee Health Coalition



Photo by LuAnne ONeal

Ironweed, goldenrod, mountain mint, native thistle, sunflower, milk weed, compass plant or rosinweed all persist here as of August 25th. Hopefully, you received some of the recent rains that came thru northern Missouri that will prolong these blooms and encourage the following: Cockscomb, dahlia, giant hyssop, English ivy (a good source for both nectar and pollen), and morning glory (grow the morning glory only if you are prepared for an unruly vine and fallen seeds that will germinate for years to come).

If you have a 3% or higher mite infestation, now what? Turn to the [Guide to Varroa Management](#) produced by the Honey Bee Health Coalition. This Guide will explain practical, effective methods that beekeepers can use to measure Varroa mite infestations in their hives and select appropriate control methods. The guide is updated regularly, as they are now on the seventh edition, June 2018.

[The Honey Bee Health Coalition](#) has many [tools and resources](#) that will help you maintain your hives. The Honey Bee Health Coalition has gathered select resources—all of which are well-researched, vetted by the apicultural field, and widely accepted—as a service to beekeepers and others interested in bee health. Though not an exhaustive list, these resources are an excellent starting point. One resource, [The Complex Life of the Honey Bee](#), is part of the [Protecting Pollinator Series](#) produced by Purdue University.

Mite Testing Techniques

Sugar roll step-by-step

- Gather all your materials
- Find a frame of brood
- Collect a ½ cup of worker bees from the brood into your jar
- Add 2 Tbsp powdered sugar to the bees in the jar
- Roll the jar to coat the bees with sugar
- Put the jar to rest in the shade for at least 2 minutes
- Shake the mites out of the jar into a tub
- Count the number of mites in your sample
- Divide by 3 to get the number of mites / 100, and compare to your threshold
- Feel good that you are helping keep your bees healthy!

According to [Randy Oliver of Scientific Beekeeping](#), “If you prep correctly, it only takes a few minutes to determine the varroa infestation rate of a hive. Here I show how to do it in under 4 minutes.” View this video that Randy Oliver’s assistant, Brooke Molina, made: [Alcohol Wash Video by Randy Oliver of Scientific Beekeeping](#)

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

Call American Bee Journal:
(217) 847-3324 for association
member subscription rates

Bee Culture

The Magazine of American Beekeeping

[Subscription](#)
(800) 289-7668



Should I be going to the MSBA State Conference?

By Kyle Day, MSBA Honey Ambassador

Market Place

Yes!! This year's conference has a great lineup of speakers from out of state and all-around Missouri. We will be having Jerry Hayes, Dr. Julian Rangel, and Dr. Judy Wu-Smart as our main speakers. They will present on all parts of queen management and honey bee health, including multiple Q&A panels throughout the event so you can ask them any questions you may have. The break out sessions will be taught by Bill Allinder (Cooking with Honey), Grant Gillard (Nicot Queen Rearing), Charlotte Wiggins (Native Planting for Honey Bees & Pollinators), Jane Summe (Small Scale Extracting, Bottling & Labeling), and Cliff Hollenbeck (Marketing & Honey Sales). We will also be honoring past Beekeepers of the Year at this conference. This conference brings together more beekeeping knowledge than any book ever could. From beginners to the seasoned pro, there is something for every beekeeper here. But my favorite session isn't only the presentations, it's during the breaks and the meals. You sometimes get to talk to the speakers personally to answer your questions or even get to eat meals with them providing even more time to personally talk to these speakers besides being in a room with beekeepers with 20+ years' experience. These are great times to pick the brains of successful beekeepers with all types of backgrounds and see what tips and tricks you can pick up. Make connections with beekeepers from all over our great state. To Register or see the Conference Schedule visit the [MSBA website](#).



Wintering Single-Story Above Double-Story Colony

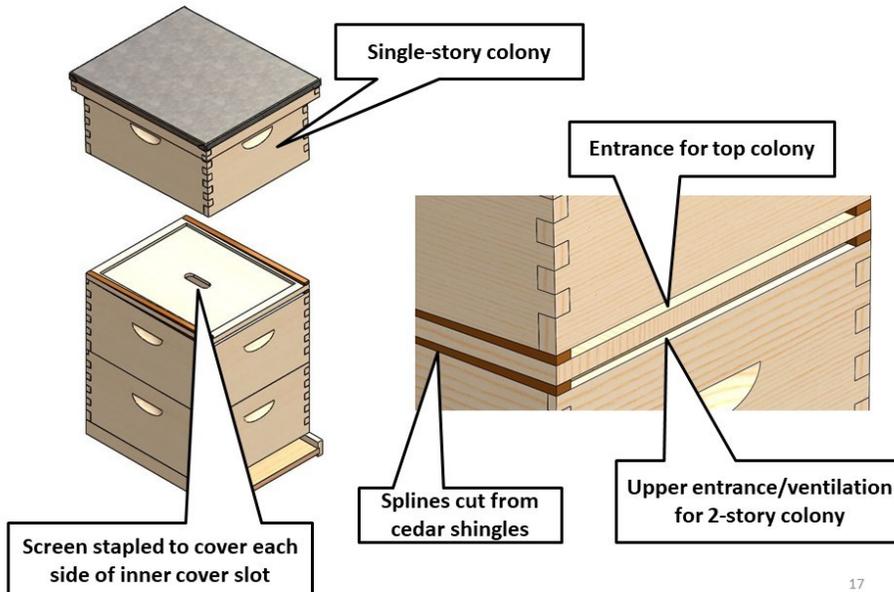


Photo by Stuart Dietz

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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: Wood-ware (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
Beekeepers
Association

Fall Conference



October 19th & 20th, 2018

Truman State University Campus, Kirksville, Mo.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



JERRY HAYES is the Honey Bee Health lead for Monsanto's newly formed BioDirect business unit. Before joining Monsanto he was the Chief of the Apicary Section for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. In the role he was responsible for the regulatory health of the 350,000 colonies in the State of Florida, a State highly dependent on Honey Bee pollination for agricultural success. For the past 30 years Jerry has written a monthly column in the American Bee Journal called The Classroom and a book by the same name. Jerry is a founding member of the Colony Collapse Working Group, a science advisory board member for Project Apis mellifera (PAm), the Bee Informed Partnership, and he serves on the Steering Committee of the Honey Bee Health Coalition. He has been author and co-author on multiple research papers that delve into how to understand and preserve honey bee health. In Jerry's 35 plus years in the Apiculture Industry his overarching desire has been to create sustainable honey bee management practices while partnering with other segments of agriculture. The cornerstone of his career has been to educate others that honey bees are the key pollinators and the critical role they play in agriculture; while in parallel encouraging the development of multi dimensional landscapes for the benefit of honey bees and all pollinators.



JUDY WU-SMART received her BS in Zoology at Humboldt State University, Arcata, California. She received her MS in Entomology at Washington State University under the advisement of Drs. Walter Sheppard and Carol Anelli. Her MS research examined the effects of pesticide residue accumulation in brood comb on honey bee health. She continued onto a PhD program with Dr. Marla Spivak at the University of Minnesota where she examined the effects of systemic neonicotinoid insecticides on honey bee and bumble bee queens and colony development. She's now an Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In her role at UNL, Judy is developing a pollinator health program to help understand the underlying stressors in bee health and their interactions with environmental toxicants. Her goal is to integrate her research and extension efforts with policy to inform the regulatory-decision making process by identifying risk mitigation opportunities and best management practices that will better protect beneficial pollinators in agricultural and urban landscapes.



DR. JULIANA RANGEL is an Assistant Professor of Apiculture with the Texas A&M Department of Entomology and is a member of the Texas A&M Honey Bee Lab.



Register Online At:
www.mostatebeekeepers.org

Watch Our Website
For More Information
As The Conference Approaches





Missouri State Beekeepers Association 2018 Fall Conference

October 19-20, 2018

Student Union Building – Truman State University
901 South Franklin Street, Kirksville, MO 63501

Online Conference registration at www.MOStateBeekeepers.org will earn you two (2) FREE tickets for prize drawing!!! You can pay your dues online, too. Thank you!

Regular mail registration (Please print name as you prefer on name tag):

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Email: _____ Telephone: () - _____

Your Local Beekeeping Club/Association: _____

Conference Cost: \$65. Please note this fee does not include membership dues OR meals.

MSBA Member Registrations submitted online & Before September 29, 2018 will receive an \$10 discount (off the regular \$65)! This early registration discount will be refunded back through PayPal™ once membership is verified.

Individual (Friday and Saturday) \$65.00 X =
Optional meals (please let us know if you prefer vegetarian or gluten free meals):
A. Friday noon meal/lunch \$15.00 X =
B. Friday evening banquet \$16.00 X =
C. Saturday noon meal/lunch \$15.00 X =
Individual (Saturday Only) \$45.00 X =

Please Note that Registrations Received On or After September 29, 2018 will be accepted at the same price, but meal purchases are not guaranteed.

Other

Honey Queen/Ambassador Fund Donation (\$10.00 Suggested):

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$

If you have any questions, please email Bruce Snavely Conference Chairman brucesnavely@hotmail.com

If you cannot register online, please make checks payable to the Missouri State Beekeepers Association and send it along with your completed registration form to: Clayton Lee, 90 East Pope Lane, Smithville, Missouri 64089.

Lodging: There are several hotels in Kirksville. We contacted a few and have rooms blocked off for MSBA members until September 25th. When you call the hotel tell them you're with the MSBA Conference to receive this pricing. Below please find some with their contact information:

- Days Inn Kirksville, 3805 S. Baltimore, Kirksville, MO 63501, (660) 665-8244, \$69.99. Twenty (20) rooms available.
- University Inn & Suites, 2702 South Franklin St., Kirksville, MO 63501, (660) 627-1100 \$89. Forty-five (45) rooms available
- Hampton Inn, 2604 N Baltimore St, Kirksville, MO 63501, [\(660\) 956-4686](tel:6609564686) \$95. Thirty rooms (30) available.

**Midwestern Beekeepers Association (MBA)
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
APPLICATION / AGREEMENT**

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 a vocation and gain the potential to pursue beekeeping as a side-line or a full-time vocation.

THE AWARDS

The Apis Award

- A Midwestern Beekeepers Association one-year membership.
- A beginning beekeeper seminar and textbook (**February** or **March**)
- Mentorship sessions in an apiary with a beekeeper

The Youth Scholarship Award:

Year One:

- Protective clothing: hat, veil and gloves.
- A beginning beekeeper seminar and textbook (**February** or **March**)
- Three apiary visits with MBA beekeepers during the first year
- A Midwestern Beekeepers Association annual membership

Year Two

- A complete set of woodenware for a beehive.
- A nucleus colony or package of bees for the hive.
- Basic beekeeping gear: hive tool, bee brush and bee smoker.
- A beginning beekeeper seminar and textbook (**February** or **March**)
- Mentoring by a Midwestern Beekeepers Association member until completion.
- A Midwestern Beekeepers Association annual membership.

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 October **31st** the year before the **Award Year** (unless previously agreed)

SELECTION PROCESS

- The Midwestern Beekeepers Association Youth Program Committee may arrange an interview with finalists and their parents or guardian.
- The Scholarship Committee Chair will award the scholarship and notify the applicant(s) after the January General Meeting. of the Award Year.

**Midwestern Beekeepers Association
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT:**

The recipient of *The Youth Scholarship Award* will receive the following:

- Woodenware consisting of two standard hive bodies with frames and foundation
- Bottom board, top cover, inner cover
- Two honey supers
- Queen excluder
- Feeder
- Nucleus or package of bees with queen
- Beginner's equipment to start the beekeeping project (veil/protective clothing, smoker, hive tool, bee brush)
- Beekeeping text and instruction notebook.

The recipient will also receive the additional benefits:

- Midwestern Beekeepers Association membership for 2 years
- Mentoring by a Midwestern Beekeepers Association member until completion
- MBA assistance in extracting honey crop
- Beginning beekeeper workshops

The recipient *The Youth Scholarship Award* will:

- Agree to a two-year commitment from the Youth Scholarship Recipient and Parent/Guardian (Commitment begins in January) Note: Parent/Guardian is expected to attend all activities with the student scholar.
- Attend the Midwestern Beginning Beekeepers Workshops (1st year student and parent are responsible for lunch cost 2nd year no charge)
- Visit three MBA beekeepers (current members) during the first year and ask each beekeeper at least five questions and turn in a summary to the YS Chairperson of what they learned from those beekeepers at the Dec meeting of the first year
- Attend MBA monthly meetings to help with set up/take down, registration table and tell a fun fact about honey bees. (Must attend 9/12 meeting and be recommended by the board to progress to the 2nd year.)
- Keep a written record complete with dates, photos and other pertinent data sufficient to substantiate all progress of beekeeping experiences.
- Complete two service projects. Service projects may include activities such as speaking to a school class or a meeting of a youth civic organization (4-H or Scouts).
- Present a final report of activities and progress including service projects and beekeeping records
- Provide at least one State Fair entry related to honey or honey bees (honey, photo contest, gift basket, informative poster, etc.—ask for suggestions)
- Study the material provided in order to become an informed beekeeper and pass the required exam.
- Optional: Other optional opportunities to volunteer include but are not limited to: State Fair, American Royal
- Upon conclusion of the 2nd beekeeping year, if the scholarship recipient has met all requirements, the MBA President or Youth Scholarship Chairperson will present her/him a **Certificate of Ownership** and full ownership of the colony and equipment.
- If, at any time during the beekeeping year, the youth scholarship recipient has neglected to care for the bees, no longer wishes to continue in beekeeping, or has failed to meet the end of year requirements, the scholarship mentor will take custody of the hive (including bees) and all related equipment. In coordination with MBA, the scholarship mentor will move the hive.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Terry Wright
9203 South Litchford
Grain Valley MO 64029

**SEPTEMBER
GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, SEP 16, 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

To make a library 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.



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!