

For the Good of the Bees

By Phil Duncan, President



I feel I owe you a more detailed explanation as to why the January meeting was cancelled. I contacted the Board Thursday evening regarding cancelling the meeting based on the latest weather forecast available. The reason this took place is that we wanted to give as much notice as possible. Our concern also was for the safety of our presenter and each of you. The presenter, Tammy George, would be driving nearly 100 miles from Chillicothe to our meeting. All the forecasts indicated much higher snowfalls and potential ice on the roads. Through a series of e-mail exchanges the Board members decided to cancel the meeting. Mrs. George will be doing her presentation at the February meeting. While it turns out that the projected storm did not develop as predicted where many of you live, there was still considerable snow north. In situations like this the Board will always err on the side of safety for our members.

I had the opportunity recently to present a program on beekeeping to a local Vo-Tech School Agriculture program class mostly of freshman and sophomores. They will be starting on their projects shortly and their instructors welcomed the presentation. The students seemed really interested and I will follow back up with the class to see if they want to become involved in our organization. I also shared with them the information on our upcoming Beginning Beekeeping workshop. Maybe I created a buzz and some will take on the challenge of beekeeping.

I feel that one of my jobs as your President is to promote beekeeping. I have a challenge for each of you. See what you can do to encourage beekeeping in your area. I have put together a couple of presentations. One is more detailed and extensive and the other is a condensed version that can be done in less than thirty minutes. If you would like this information, send me an e-mail.

My children feel that they need to celebrate the end of my 70th trip around the sun with a small party. They are holding the party at the Harrisonville Community Center on March 16th (the day before our March meeting) from 2:00 to 4:30. Cake and punch will be served. They wanted me to extend an invitation to you. I would love to see you there to prove that I am not the only one that can talk about beekeeping. The Community Center is located at 2400 S. Jefferson Parkway in Harrisonville, MO.

COMING UP

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, FEB 17, 2019
2:30 PM

BASS PRO SHOP
INDEPENDENCE, MO
IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER ON THE DAY OF A MEETING, PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, OR CALL AN OFFICER



2019 GENERAL MEETINGS
BASS PRO SHOP
INDEPENDENCE, MO

Mar 17, 2019, 2:30 PM
Apr 14, 2019, 2:30 PM
May 19, 2019, 2:30 PM
Jun 9, 2019, 2:30 PM
Jul 21, 2019, 2:30 PM
Aug 25, 2019, 2:30 PM
Picnic

Sep 15, 2019, 2:30 PM
Oct 13, 2019, 2:30 PM
Location TBD
Nov 18, 2019, 2:30 PM
Location TBD
Dec 15, 2019, 2:30 PM
Location TBD



[Renew your 2019 membership](#)



[Become a MSBA member today](#)



February General Meeting
Sunday, February 17, 2019
Bass Pro Shop at Independence, MO

Welcome New Members
By Terry Wright



February General Meeting
Sunday, February 17, 2019 at 2:30PM
At the Bass Pro Shop in Independence
Bill and Tammy George of Crooked Hill
Beekeeping will be presenting on the topic:

“Sales Tax Laws, Bottling and Labeling in Missouri”



123Community America Credit Union Transactions for December 26, 2018 to January 25, 2019	
Checking Account Balance: December 26, 2018	\$ 7,634.90
Savings Account Balance: December 26, 2018	\$ 6,173.86
Total Receipts Deposited	\$ 1,002.00
Total Expenses Paid	\$ -650.22
Dividends from Savings & Checking	\$ 1.02
Checking Account Balance: January 25, 2018	\$ 7,986.68
Savings Account Balance: January 25, 2018	\$ 6,174.57
CD's total capital as of December 26, 2018	\$ 17,228.66
Dividends received	\$ 4.26
CD's total capital as of January 25, 2018	\$ 17,252.92

- Shane Alexander**
Smithville
- Alicia Alferman**
Overland Park
- Jon Baum**
Mission Hills
- Alyssa Becho**
Freeman
- Thad & Morgan Crawford**
Kansas City
- Tammara Dorn**
Independence
- Rick Downen**
Trenton
- Kathleen Foster**
Kansas City
- Elizabeth Henggeler**
Polo
- Ben Hobert**
Westwood Hills
- Mark Humphrey**
King City
- Marvin & Melanie Klingele**
Lewistown
- Jean Koehler**
Kansas City
- Isaac Lee**
Independence
- Miranda Marcum**
Lathrop
- Dennis Moore**
Buckner
- Linda Siemens**
Kansas City
- Quincy Taylor**
Lathrop
- Jay Thompson**
Kansas City
- John & Rebecca Vanscoy**
Lee's Summit
- Blaine Waterworth**
Odessa
- Erin Wilson**
St. Joseph

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

<http://www.midwesternbeekeepers.org/about-us/>



New Year, New Beekeeper

By Kyle Day, MSBA West Central
Regional Director

February is here, which is when we usually start preparing for spring. However, as I write this article its below freezing and hard to imagine spring. As bees build up and crank up brood rearing, hives can run out of food quickly, I suggest checking on your hive often from the outside, put your ear against the side of the box and knock to try and hear a buzz. On 40 degree days or warmer, it won't hurt to open the top and take a quick peek at the bees, but don't pull any of the frames or pull apart the boxes. If the bees are on top, I would suggest putting on fondant, or dry/moist sugar. I don't like to feed liquid syrup because it puts moisture into the hive and can increase cleansing flights. If the weather brings another cold snap and the bees cannot fly, it could lead to dysentery. I also do not like to feed liquid syrup and pollen patties, because if you feed too much, it can stimulate brood production and a booming hive in March can be a nightmare to beekeepers in their second year. If you need to put feed on and the bees are on top of the top bars, I would suggest going out on a day when they are flying and use only a very little smoke to just get them off the top bars, so you can place the feed and not smash them.

In February, bees will start bringing in pollen, mostly from trees or shrubs. Usually, towards the later part of the month is when there is a constant flow of pollen coming into the hive. This is when liquid feed becomes an option if the weather is staying warm. If you are interested in seeing what is in bloom during this time, the Missouri extension has a chart in their "[Seasonal Apiary Management For Missouri Guide](#)" that can help. I also suggest you buy a guide of honey plants and pollen charts and talk to local beekeepers about what color pollen certain plants produce. Do not forget to read the Honey Plants articles in this newsletter.

If you have had a hive die this winter and do not know why, there is a great guide to help diagnosis deadouts on the Missouri State Beekeepers Association website in the resources tab (<https://mostatebeekeepers.org/links/>).

I always suggest sitting down and writing out a yearly plan and goals that you want to accomplish this year. Go out and buy a notebook to write down your goals and keep track of your hive records throughout the year. Also, you can find a lot of different hive inspection sheets online or order them through a supplier.

I highly suggest everyone write down each hive visit and what you did. So you can refer back to it and see what is going on in your hives and help plan future hive visits and refer back to your records year to year. If you have not done it yet, don't forget to order bees and equipment this month. Suppliers will be sold out soon and you want your equipment ready now so you will not be rushing later. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to email me at sunnydaybeekeeping@gmail.com. Next month we will be switching from winter survival to spring build up. Hope to see you all at the next meeting.



Basic Beekeeping in February

Quick List

- ◆ Continue to better your beekeeping knowledge by reading books and magazines.
- ◆ Feed for insurance.
- ◆ See what color pollen your bees are bring in and research it.
- ◆ Order bees and equipment and start building. April will be here in no time and if you wait, you will be behind.
- ◆ Check out local and state meetings for the spring



Bee Culture

The Magazine of American Beekeeping

<http://www.bee-culture.com/magazine/>

(800) 289-7668

Market Place

Honey Plants By James Reeves



Beekeepers.com

Robert Hughes
12333 Wedd Street
Overland Park, KS 66213
913-681-5777

RobertLHughes2000@yahoo.com
Beekeepers.com is your local Kansas City Bee Company. We carry a full line of Beekeeping Supplies, Bees and Queens. Visit our website www.Beekeepers.com for your all your beekeeping supplies. Go to our website BeePackages.com to order your Bee Packages and QueenBees.com to order your Queens. We are available by appointment Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00



Sunny Day Beekeeping

Kyle Day
Richmond MO
64085
816-654-5287



www.sunnydaybeekeeping.com

Open by appointment on most days. Wide range of hours are available throughout the week. Due to college and work schedule, phone calls may not be answered right away, but feel free to text. I will contact you back as soon as I can. Locally made high quality woodenware. We offer all things needed to keep bees, including: woodenware (assembled and unassembled/painted available), hive kits, frames, foundation, smokers, tools, bee suits, veils, books, honey containers, extraction equipment, NUC boxes, swarm traps. Free delivery to most Midwestern Beekeepers Association meetings.

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.



Messner Bee Farm Store

Erik and Rachael Messner
8301 Westridge Road
Raytown, MO 64138
816-585-6814

www.messnerbeefarm.com



FOR SALE! Four frame Nucs with Italian or Carniolan queen. Available about May 10th, 2019. 50% deposit with order.
816-777-9726

Have you ever thought about planting a pollinator garden? While the honey bee carries the lions share of pollination, other pollinators are beneficial as well. All pollinators benefit from the plants we install for our honey bees. As you plan your layout, look for groups of flowers with the same shape, bowl shaped are best for the bees. Also plant different types of species in groups for diversity. *Echinacea*, *Rudbeckia* and *Asters* are of the same shape but bloom at different times. Blues, purples and yellows are great for bees as they see in ultraviolet vision. Single flowers produce more nectar than doubles because the extra petals replace the pollen laden anther. Also it makes it more difficult for honey bees to reach the sweet inner flower parts. Look for native plants that are not cultivars as cultivars do not produce much nectar or pollen. They are designed for color, disease resistance, and drought tolerance.

There isn't a lot that you can do this time of the year as far as planting but we can plan, layout out plots of bee balm, *Rudbeckia*, various varieties of milkweed and wish for spring. Additionally, now is the time to be ordering the plants or seeds from seed catalogs, visit local nurseries, and sharpen garden tools. If you are lucky enough to have a greenhouse, you can get a jump on spring by starting plants there. A grow light and heat mats also help if a greenhouse is not available. Explore alternatives to get growing. Spring is coming!

Missouri State Beekeepers Association

Spring Conference

March 15-16, 2019 Southeast Missouri State University



In 2006-2007, Kirsten received a German Chancellor Fellowship & drove over 50,000 miles throughout Western Europe to study the differences between European & American beekeeping. She reported her findings through 50+ published articles. Fascinated with the social complexity of a honey bee hive, she earned her PhD in biology from Arizona State University with Dr. Robert Page. While a grad student, she spent almost a year in Avignon, France in the lab of Dr. Yves Le Conte as a Fulbright Fellow. She investigates how pesticides impact honey bee health as a postdoc with Dr. Dennis vanEngelsdorp and edited American Bee Journal from November 2017 – December 2018. She is the author of *Two Million Blossoms: Discovering the Medicinal Benefits of Honey and Simple, Smart Beekeeping*. She manages a boutique organic apiary producing top quality nucs and Maryland reared queens. Using the biology of the bee against the biology of the varroa mite, she keeps her colonies healthy without synthetic chemicals. Presentation Titles for Kirsten Traynor: “*Simple Smart Beekeeping*” “*Halting the Unstoppable Swarm*” “*American Foulbrood*”



Zac Lamas is a PhD candidate at the University of Maryland. He studies mite feeding and does pesticide research on honey bees. Prior to joining the lab, Zac worked for Michael Palmer in Saint Albans, Vermont where he managed colonies for honey production and made nucleus colonies. While Zac worked for French Hill Apiaries, he also ran a few hundred migratory hives between North Carolina and upstate New York. He is most focused on beekeeping management, and best practices for productive colonies and low overwintering mortality. Zac continues to be a contributor to the American Bee Journal.

Presentation Titles for Zac Lamas: “*Requeening a Hive*” “*Winter Prep Begins Mid-Summer*” “*Rapid Expansion*”



Bob Finck worked as a Food Chemist for Allen Foods. Married 49 years, two married daughters, two twin grandchildren. Started beekeeping in 1980 and joined the Eastern MO Beekeepers Assn. Immediately became “passionate” about honeybees. Beekeeping for 48 years. Has won 85 ribbons (40 Blue) with honey and beeswax entries at the Missouri State Fair. Served two five-year terms as EMBA president. Enjoys helping new beekeepers overcome their problems and issues.



Breakout Speakers:

Gregg Hitchings will talk on “*Local Club Speaker Development*”

Charlotte Wiggins will talk on “*Native Planting for Pollinators*”

Bernie Andrews will talk on “*Setup for a Sideliner Extraction House*”

Chef Bill Allinder will talk on “*Cooking with Honey Part 2*”

Gregg Hitchings will talk on “*European Foulbrood*”...and with weather permitting we will have a group led “*Spring Hive Inspection*”



[Conference Hotel Information](#)

[Conference Registration](#)

Conferences & Events



March 15-16 2019
Missouri State Beekeepers Association Spring Conference
Cape Girardeau, MO
[MSBA](#)



June 1, 2019
NEKBA Bee Funday
Douglas County Fairgrounds
Lawrence, KS
Day of Workshops, Keynote
Speaker, Swarm Demo,
Lunch & Honey Ice Cream
<http://www.nekba.org>



July 10-12, 2019
Heartland Apicultural Society
Annual Conference
Nashville, Tennessee
heartlandbees.org



Sep 8-12, 2019
The 46th Apimondia
International
Apicultural Congress
Montréal, Canada
apimondia2019.com

Midwestern Beekeepers Association Workshop



On February 23, 2019 we will be having our 24th annual Midwestern Beekeepers Beginning Beekeepers Workshop from 8am-4pm with registration starting at 7:30 am. It will be held at Drumm Farm Center for Children, Nelson Hall, 3210 South Lee's Summit Road, Independence MO. The fee is \$65 which includes the class, the book *Starting Right With Bees*, the workbook *The Buzz about Beekeeping*, lunch, and a one year membership. Additional family members of the same household will be \$50. Current Members will also be \$50.

The following are a list of topics that will be discussed during the workshop:

- ◆ Honey Bee Biology
- ◆ City Ordinance
- ◆ Equipment
- ◆ Acquiring and Installing Bees
- ◆ Honey plants
- ◆ Educational resources
- ◆ Hive/Woodenware demonstration
- ◆ Hive management
- ◆ Extracting of Honey

This year we will have several vendors in which you can place orders and pick up items. The vendors will be:

- ◆ Beekeepers.com
- ◆ Crooked Hill Beekeeping
- ◆ Messner Bee Farm

Officers

Here are our 2019 officers and their contact information:

President: Phil Duncan;
phildu19771@embarqmail.com

1st VP/Program: Erik Messner;
erik.messner@gmail.com

2nd VP/Membership: Terry A. Wright;
926wright@gmail.com

3rd VP/Publicity/Editor: Marjorie Craig;
1989mmay@gmail.com

Secretary: Lenora Woolsey;
le-norawoolsey@gmail.com

Treasurer: Robert Scott;
scottbob@centurylink.net

Auditor: Robert Burns;
rburnshoney@gmail.com

1st Board Member: Harold Wright;
wrightmeadows@gmail.com

2nd Board Member: Debbie DeCaigney;
debrats@sbcglobal.net

3rd Board Member: Steve DeCaigney;

Librarian: John Martin;
jmartin98@comcast.net

Webmaster: Bob Williams;
thebel-tonbee@gmail.com



24rd Annual Beginning Beekeeping Workshop

Saturday, February 23, 2019

Drumm Farm Center for Children

Nelson Hall

3210 South Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO

Registration: 7:30-8:00 AM, Class: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM

(Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email for Newsletter: _____

Pre-Registration Required—Class Size Limited

Registration Closed When Class Is Filled or By February 17, 2019

No Refunds after February 17, 2019

Class Fee, Lunch,
& Midwestern Beekeepers Association One Year Membership \$65 ea _____

Additional Family member of the same household: (Class Fee & Lunch) \$50 ea _____

Current Midwestern Association Members:
Class Fee & Lunch: \$50 ea _____

Make Checks Payable to: **Midwestern Beekeepers Association**
Mail registration form and fees to:
Midwestern Beekeepers Association
2407 S. Holloway Road
Oak Grove, MO 64075

For More Information, call Bob Williams at (816) 331-6634 or Cindy Connell at (816) 517-4357
<http://www.midwesternbeekeepers.org/>



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Terry Wright
9203 South Litchford
Grain Valley MO 64029

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, FEB 17, 2019
2:30 PM
BASS PRO SHOP
INDEPENDENCE, MO
IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER ON THE DAY
OF A MEETING, PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE,
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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 Marjorie Craig, Editor, at 1989mmay@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!