

For the Good of the Bees

By Phil Duncan, President



We had our annual picnic on Sunday, August 25th and despite the down-pour, we had a great time. I would like to thank Michelle Williams and her husband Bob for pulling it all together. The brisket, chicken and pulled pork they provided were really tasty. All those that attended brought a wonderful assortment of foods. Thank you to all that attended. If you couldn't make it this time, I hope you can next year. Besides the great food there was a lot of conversation about bees and beekeeping. One thing I have discovered is that no beekeeper can just talk about bees for a few minutes and then go on to other topics.

In addition to the food and conversations there was a display of the entries and awards from the Missouri State Fair. Pictured below are Bob Williams, Debbie and Steve DeCaigney. Congratulations to these folks for their awards. You might want to consider entering your bee related products next year. I know I plan to enter as many things as possible.



COMING UP

GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 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

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



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membership](#)



[Become a MSBA
member today](#)



**For the Good of the Bees
(continued)
By Phil Duncan, President**



I would like to thank those of our members who worked at the Missouri State Beekeepers Association booth at the State Fair. I encourage you to help next year. It was a lot of fun visiting with fellow beekeepers and the general public.

As the year is rapidly coming to a close I am sure many of you have extracted your honey and have been addressing mite issues. We are fast approaching the time when the winter bees are being born. You need to make sure that your hives go into the winter as healthy and well stocked for food as possible. If you are one of our newer beekeepers, be sure to talk to other members regarding winter prep.

One final issue that I need to address is the need for members to step up their involvement by becoming Board of Director members. We have two openings that need to be filled. Terry Wright is stepping down as our 2nd Vice-President – Membership. Additionally Nita Dietz is stepping down as the Youth Scholarship Chair. Both of these ladies have done an outstanding job and I would like to personally thank them for their years of service.

We are a volunteer run organization and it can only be successful in providing each member with a variety of programs if you get involved. Please contact any of our Board members if you would like to help in either of these positions or would like to run for other offices. Elections will be held at the November meeting and the officers installed at the December meeting.

In October the Missouri State Beekeepers Association will hold their fall meeting in Moberly, Missouri. The dates are October 18th and 19th. Check out the Missouri State Beekeepers Association web page and Facebook page for more information. I hope to see a lot of our members there. It is well worth the time and expense.

**Welcome New
Members
By Terry Wright**



- Destiny Potter



**Best Beekeeping Apps of
2019**

These apps can be useful guides as you build a colony from the ground up, or they can help you track your progress. Many of them are free, perfect for trying out, while some will just require a couple of dollars to download.

- HiveTracks – Apiary Management Software
- HiveKeepers for Beekeepers
- HiveTool Mobile – Beekeeping
- BeePlus Beekeeping Manager – Hive Tool & Apiary Tracker
- Apiary Book
- American Bee Journal
- BeeRM
- Beekeeping Pro
- Best Starting Bee Keeping Guide – Easy Basic Bee Farming Plans & Maintenance Tips for Beginners
- Beekeeping – Learn How to Keep Bees Successfully

<https://beekeepclub.com/best-beekeeping-apps/>



Basic Beekeeping New Beekeepers It's Time to Prepare!

By Kyle Day, MSBA West Central
Regional Director

Preparing for Winter

You've got to be ahead of your bees!

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 hives mite levels. One of the first questions that will be asked (or should ask yourself) next spring is what your mite levels were. This will help other beekeepers determine things if your hive didn't make it, or next spring when you're looking for hives to split and make queens from, 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. The biggest thing about which one you use is to use it correctly and know your mite threshold. I do believe the threshold numbers are about 3% infestation rate (this would be 3 mites per 100 bees, and 9 mites for 1/2 cup of bees (300)) So anything over this would need to be treated.

For winter you need a healthy colony. I believe a healthy colony is made up of three things. A good Queen, low pest numbers, and plenty of food (Pollen + Nectar). Assuming you have done mite checks, and food is plentiful, the next important thing is hive population.

A. A large proportion of the hive population which are new young bees laid and hatched in the fall: September through early November.

B. 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 sometime 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 there is nothing you can do about it.

Once your hive enters winter, other than supplemental feed, 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 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, one-part water. This will require less work for the bees driving off the moisture. A lot of beekeepers suggest 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 add 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 sunnydaybeekeeping@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.

Beekeeping 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

Market Place

Youth Scholarship program

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



Jim Smith

H# 816-230-4102

Cell# 816 419-0717

If no answer leave message.
jimsbusybees@gmail.com

I have a 2 frame Dadant extractor (hand crank). An electric decapping knife and 2 non-electric decapping knives. A plastic deep sink. Refractometer. I also have some other beekeeping tools, several brood boxes and supers with frames.

Youth Scholarship Applications are Due October 31st

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 31**, 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**.

Application can be found at :

<http://www.midwesternbeekeepers.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/1.-2018-Youth-Scholarship-Application-Form-3.pdf>

Mite Testing Techniques

US MiteCheck Interactive Map

www.mitecheck.com

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



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](#)

The US MiteCheck Interactive Map has been launched with a new app! A joint effort by the University of MN Bee Squad, Michigan State University Michigan Pollinator Initiative, University of Maryland College Park's VanEngelsdorff Bee Lab and the Bee Informed Partnership. MiteCheck was founded to share varroa mite population information among beekeepers and provide an opportunity for beekeepers to join a 'beekeeper citizen science' effort. If you keep bees in the US, please share your powdered sugar roll mite test results with us via this survey at www.mitecheck.com.

Help us learn about Varroa destructor mite infestations across the country at the county level. Check out the map to see if mite levels have been reported in your county.



**Become a member of the
Missouri State
Beekeepers Association.**

We will have a sign up sheet at our September meeting. Dues will be \$9 (regularly \$10) please see Kyle Day MSBA West Central Regional Director for more information.

<https://mostatebeekeepers.org/become-an-msba-member-today/>





September General Meeting
 Sunday, September 15, 2019
 Bass Pro Shop at Independence, MO

Conferences & Events



September 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



Oct 18-19 2019
 Missouri State Beekeepers Association
 Fall
 Conference
 Moberly, MO
MSBA



2020 American Beekeeping Federation
 Conference & Tradeshow
 January 8-11 Schaumburg, Illinois
<https://abfconference.com/>

September General Meeting
Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 2:30PM
Bass Pro Shop in Independence
18001 Bass Pro Dr, Independence, MO 64055 in
the Conservation Room on the lower level

Max Helm will be presenting on the topic:
“Winter Preparations/Survival”



Community America Credit Union Transactions for July 26, 2019 to August 25, 2019	
Checking Account Balance: July 26, 2019	\$ 5,401.53
Savings Account Balance: July 26, 2019	\$ 5,385.73
PayPal Account Balance: July 26, 2019	\$ 421.18
Total Receipts Deposited in Checking	\$ 25.14
Total Expenses Paid from Checking	\$ -77.58
Checking Account Balance: August 25, 2019	\$ 5,349.09
Savings Account Balance: August 25, 2019	\$ 5,707.60
PayPal Account Balance: August 25, 2019	\$ 100.00
CD's total capital as of July 26, 2019	\$ 22,403.34
Dividends received	\$ 32.94
CD's total capital as of August 25, 2019	\$ 22,436.28

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

Missouri State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference 2019 October 18-19th

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association will hold its Fall Conference beginning Friday, October 18, at 8:45 am and continue through Saturday, October 19 on the campus of Moberly Area Community College (MACC). Registration is open at 7:00 am on Friday in the spacious auditorium at MACC. There is seating capacity for 400 so there's plenty of room for you to enjoy this conference!

We encourage attendees to register early before the conference to guarantee you will get the meals offered at the conference. Registration will be taken at the door, but meals may not be available at that time.



Keynote speakers include Peter Borst and Dr. Krispn Given. Peter was Senior Apianist at Cornell's Dyce Lab for Honey Bee Studies for seven years, served as an apiary inspector for New York State, and is currently President of the Finger Lakes Bee Club. He is a prolific author and is currently a regular contributor to American Beekeeping Journal and Bee Culture. Dr Krispn Given is Apicultural Specialist at Purdue University's Department of Entomology in West Lafayette, Indiana. Krispn started breeding bees over 25 years ago and gives lectures to beekeepers and researchers at national and international conferences. He was instrumental, along with Dr. Greg Hunt,



in developing the "mite-biter" bee strain in helping to control Varroa mites. Rounding out the General Meeting speakers are Collin Wamsley, Chief Entomologist/Program Administrator for the State of Missouri to talk about what the Missouri inspection program entails to help Missouri beekeepers; Casey Berthoud, Missouri's Quail Forever and Pheasants Forever state coordinator who oversees 16 biologists and the Missouri for Monarchs coordinator to talk about forage planting for beekeepers and how the organization that he oversees might help; and, Sheldon Brummel, Master Beekeeper Project Coordinator, Department of Entomology for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE to talk about the newly developed Great Plains Master Beekeeping Program. Missouri State Beekeepers Association is one of the partnering states in this exciting new developing program.

There will also be breakout classes each afternoon to highlight topics of specific interest to local beekeepers and clubs. These classes will be announced on our website. There are also hotels in the area that have reserved a block of rooms for attendees and hotel reservation info will be forthcoming on our website as well. If you have any further questions you may email brucesnavely@hotmail.com, MSBA Program Chair.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Terry Wright
9203 South Litchford
Grain Valley MO 64029

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 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

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!