

# CAPPINGS

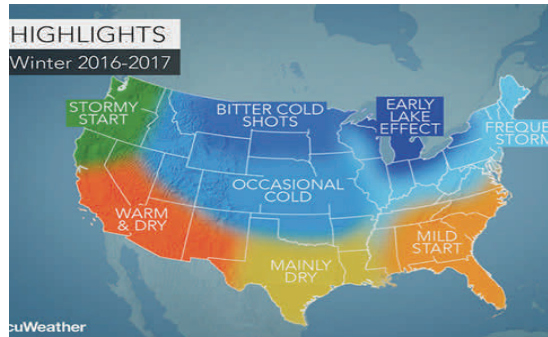
The Official Newsletter of the  
Kansas Honey Producers Association  
[www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)



4Th Quarter—2016

## 2016-17 Winter Predictions

According to Accuweather®



Most Americans cringe at the thought of colder, longer winter forecasts and more expensive fuel costs.

Based on information recently released by [ACCUWeather](http://www.accuweather.com) and the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](http://www.eia.doe.gov) (EIA), the 2016-2017 winter is set to be one of the longest, most expensive we've experienced in years.

Temperatures this winter, based on the most recent forecast of

heating degree days from the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](http://www.noaa.gov) (NOAA), are expected to be much colder than last winter, especially east of the Rocky Mountains. NOAA anticipates the Northeast and Midwest will be 17 percent colder and the South, 18 percent colder. In the West, temperatures are forecast to be about 2 percent warmer than last winter. However, recent winters provide a reminder that weather can be unpredictable.

"For the beginning of the meteorological winter [December], it looks like the most extreme area will be the northern Plains," said Evan Duffey, meteorologist, AccuWeather. "From the Dakotas and Montana, down to Kansas, and east toward Chicago, we're expecting to see below-normal temperatures in December as cold shots get into the area frequently. Outside of this region; however, winter may be slow to start with above normal warmth across a majority of the country. Read more at:

<http://www.achrnews.com/articles/133680-hvac-contractors-brace-for-a-cold-long-winter>

## Veterinary Feed Directive - What it means to beekeepers

**VFD** is an acronym for **Veterinary Feed Directive**. This is a new ruling from the **US Food & Drug Administration** taking effect January 1, 2017. The purpose of **VFD** is to help protect our nation's food supply by limiting anti-biotic medications used in livestock production. This affects beekeepers who are concerned with preventative treatment for American Foulbrood in their colonies. The common medications used in beekeeping for AFB prevention would include those containing the active ingredient Oxytetracycline, such as Terra-Pro, Tylan, Terramycin Patty and others.

I spoke with **Tim May**, commercial beekeeper and officer in American Beekeeping Federation from the Chicago area by phone to get the low down on how the **VFD** affects beekeepers. There was a rumor that claimed AFB and the American Honey Producers Association lobbied successfully at the federal level to remove bee antibiotic medications from the VFD. Tim clarified that this was not the case.

From January 1, 2017 onward, many feed additive medications will require a veterinary approval, which have been available over the counter until that date. **Tim** summed the VFD's effect on beekeepers this way – "If you plan to use these antibiotics, you will need to establish a relationship with a veterinarian. They (veterinarians) should be well informed on the issues of VFD, but maybe not necessarily on beekeeper's use of medications within their hives." **Tim** suggested beekeepers will probably need to explain to their veterinarian the purpose they are seeking a prescription. The veterinarians will need to know the name of the drug of choice, level of animal drug to be administered, how many refills are necessary, etc. **Tim** said the veterinarian will be required to provide beekeepers various information also: his/her license number, name of state issuing the license, along with making certain statements such as "Extra-label use is strictly prohibited" on the prescription. **Tim** also mentioned that **Dr. Mike Murphy** will be a presenter at the combined ABF/AHPA meeting in Galveston, January 2017 and will touch on the VFD in his presentation.

**Greg**

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*Don't confuse me with facts... my mind is made up!* Marion S. McIntyre

*By: Greg Swob*

The fall 2016 KHPA meeting in Hays was a wonderful success! The only thing missing was—many of you. Our speakers were bar none, an amazing assortment of expertise! **Ed Colby**, writer for *Bee Culture* did a hands-on mite count test and spoke to us about neonicotinoids. **Dr. Ron Fessenden** among other items, spoke of two important things in our diet—Bacon and Raw Honey. If you're confused... well that alone was worth the price of admission to hear. **Jim Kellie** spoke on pesticides and gave a presentation about commercial operators. We learned of the plight of bats, an ever important part of the Kansas ecosystem. Making seed bombs was quite popular. I'm looking forward to the spring meeting in Topeka at the downtown Ramada Inn. It's been years since I've toured the Ks. State Capitol Building, which is a part of the conference.

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**Mark Wood, Sandy & I** travelled to the Colorado State Beekeepers Assn CBSA winter meeting the following weekend. **Dr. Keith Delaplaine** was their main speaker. He will be joining us at Topeka. Like our meetings, various presentations and hands-on sessions were part of the day in Castle Rock

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Grandma used to say, "there's more than one way to skin a cat..." As a youngster, I figured with her and grandpa raising a family on a small farm during the heart of the Great Depression maybe caused them to resort to some drastic measures to eke out a living. I've learned to not take things so literally since. Needless to say, what my wise grandmother was saying was simply – right or wrong, there is almost always another way to accomplish a task. The same goes for the great hobby or business of beekeeping. I've been telling newer beekeepers for years a tongue in cheek piece of advice, "Ask ten beekeepers the same question and expect to hear a dozen different answers." While this is an exaggeration, one thing that is not, is that most of us are passionate with our opinions on beekeeping practices. I was thinking back a couple of years when a newbie picked up his first package from us on Bee Daze. "How do you install 'em", he asked? I keep a complete demonstrating hive set up to show the system I use. After I'd 'walked' through it, his response was "Well, that ain't how they do it on U-Tube..." I replied, "They're (U-Tube) probably right. These are your bees now and it's up to you to decide how you're going to manage them".

I find the following statement to be quite profound. "This organization shall be a not for profit entity designed to: advance and foster the interests of Kansas honey producers by promoting honey and other bee related products, secure beneficial legislation, develop a spirit of mutual encourage-

ment and cooperation, increase knowledge of bees and beekeeping practices, invite into membership all beekeepers residing within or managing bees within the State of Kansas, and foster the promotion and protection of all pollinators..." Where do we find this? It is Article II, Purpose, one of the very first statements defining the Constitution of this great organization.

I've told lots of folks 'it would be a very cold day in...' before you'll see a Flow, Warre or Top Bar Hive in my yard. Then I met a member of the CSBA who spoke about her experiences. Her rationale for experimenting with them made perfect sense. She said "There is so much demand from people who want to know the ins and outs of these alternative systems. As president of our local beekeeping club and CBSA Best Practices committee member, I concluded I needed to learn more about them before I spoke out of turn." Open-minded logic is hard to argue with.

We in KHPA are a diverse group of beekeepers from all over the state of Kansas. KHPA exists for the common good of one another. That is what makes our group work and worth being a member of.

In my high school days, I got to know our principal very well by spending some time in his office. His tongue-in-cheek mantra was- "Don't confuse me with facts... my mind is made up." Of course, his intent was to show how so many of us are closed-minded to 'facts' and have a firm opinion regardless of them. This same thinking can apply to city councils regarding bee ordinances. He and I agreed to disagree on a great number of things, but I learned to embrace diversity from him long before it became popular. He was also a gifted debater and coincidentally, won every time.

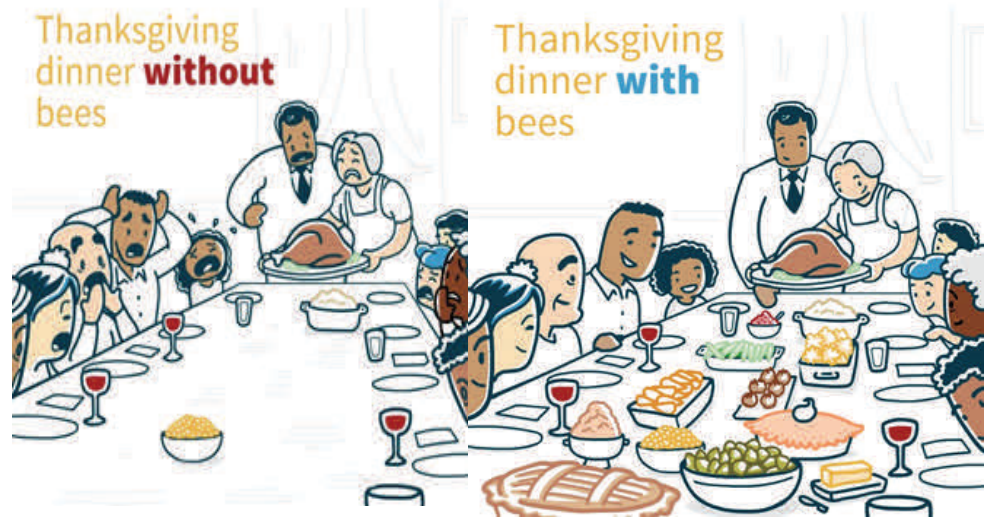
Our KHPA membership is very diverse. Beekeeping itself is diverse; there are so many systems and variations of systems out there. Some work quite well for many people and not at all for others. Grandma was right... Mr. McIntyre was right. There is more than one way to do something and we need to be open-minded to options. Many of us, me included, can be set in our ways and have limited openness to alternative thinking. How I keep my bees is 'my' system. Today, it has become fluid, constantly evolving and ever changing. It works better than ever, now. My mind is now open to more experimenting, reading, learning, asking... The purpose of our association is in part to '... develop a spirit of mutual cooperation... invite into membership all beekeepers residing within the state of Kansas...' So we must welcome diversity and be willing to learn from those who are successful. And we should also be willing to share what makes our own successes possible. Skinning cats isn't always easy. See you in Topeka! **Greg**

## ***BIP- Bee Informed Partnership has an approach to help our bees:***

Through this multimedia campaign, Americans will learn more about where their food comes from and can take action to help improve the ability of beekeepers to manage the health of their honey bees. By participating in the campaign, the public will get to play a direct role in helping save the bees and save Thanksgiving.

**Here are three things you can do to take action and help BIP reach their goal:**

- 1) Donate to the campaign! Click here to see the campaign: <http://igg.me/at/beetechteams>
- 2) Share the campaign link with your friends, family, and social media network to help us spread the word
- 3) Visit [beeinformed.org](http://beeinformed.org) to learn more about their important work and how you can get involved



## ***Committees in Action***

**Membership**— Our newest committee. **Purpose**— to promote membership with the organization. **Duties**— Promoting the benefits of membership with our organization. Contact expired members; suggest means to enhance the membership experience. We are looking for a few good men and women to join this committee! Contact Pres. Greg if interested in this committee. Members will be announced as the group grows.

**By Laws**— **Purpose**— To review KHPA documents such as the Constitution and By Laws for grammatical, intent or other clarifications. To keep the governing documents of this association as those best serving the members. This vital committee met electronically throughout the summer to develop some needed changes and enhancements to the KHPA Constitution. Members who attended the fall 2016 meeting in Hays voted to accept the draft presented by this committee. This committee will continue to review the association Constitution and By Laws as needed. **Becky Tipton, Joli Winer, Mark Wood, Chad Gilliland**—current members.

**Best Practices**— This will be a very hard working committee and we will all be able to thank them for their efforts. One of the most important tasks will be to work with various city councils and commissions throughout Kansas to eliminate bee banning ordinances, advise these governmental groups on acceptable base ordinances, etc. They will also be your resources for equipment, tips, techniques, information, etc. on bee keeping practices, swarm and structural bee removal, honeybee health, etc. **Joli Winer, Kristi Sanderson, Britt Hopper and Sharon Dobesh, Rich Abel** —members.

**If you are interested in serving your organization on any of these committees, please contact president Greg. If you have suggestions for any of the committees that will help their tasks, feel free to contact me or any listed member.**

## ***South Central Region***

The group has decided to change the name to Great Plains Beekeepers. Our group continues to have 35 members present at our monthly meetings. There are always some new faces in the group. Discussion on timely topics and questions from newbees creates a lively discussion. One of our favorite activities is the 'favorite gadget' show and tell. Always some ingenious beekeepers out there. We have placed a couple of hives at Great Plains Nature Center that we use as teaching hives. **Mike Leck**, of GPNC, already has a top bar and a foundationless hives there so we have a variety of hives to look thru and observe. We monitored for varroa and did our OA treatments.

Nov 12 was our Holiday get together with a pot luck and programs. **Jim** and **Sharon Rowan** of Rowan's Honey Shop hosted the get together. It will be a great time packed with information, food and fellowship.

Our Yahoo group and Facebook page continues to grow with over 150 members. Actually, our Facebook page has over 200. Some are not local, but all have an interest in our favorite insect, the honeybee. We are looking forward to the new year and have some new ideas to implement to make our group more informational for all beekeepers, no matter their level expertise.

***Bill Vinduska***



# Spring Meeting of the Kansas Honey Producers

March 10 & 11 2017

*2<sup>nd</sup> Year Beekeeping and Beyond*

Ramada Convention Center, Downtown Topeka

420 SE 6<sup>th</sup> ST. Topeka KS 66607

Room Reservations: 785-234-5400

I'm still working on the program and the pricing for the meeting so I (Joli) will send out a separate mailing/email in January. Here are the highlights! We have a great rate for our sleeping rooms at \$83.00 a night. Please make reservations by February 17<sup>th</sup> to get this rate. Please request the Kansas Honey Producers rate. This rate includes a full hot breakfast buffet. Please call the hotel directly to get this rate at 785-234-5400 or 800-432-2424.

We will have **Dr. Keith Delaplane** as our guest speaker. Since he loves to go to state capitol buildings we will schedule a tour of the capitol. The last time he was here we got a tour that included the dome. This was before the recent remodel! I will attempt to set that up again so that we can see the changes. We'll have **Dr. Delaplane** cover the biology topic and update us on diseases plus some other talks. So for you Newbees there will be plenty for you too.

I have reserved two rooms for break-out sessions so with our main room that gives us the option of having 3 things going on at one time. We are hoping that since we will be in the NEKBA neighborhood that we'll have a lot of local beekeepers participating. If you have a topic for a workshop that you would like to see, please contact me at 913-593-3562-(cell) or by email at [joli@heartlandhoney.com](mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com). We will for sure have some state employees presenting-weights and measures and sales tax etc. I am also planning a lot of management presentations and value-added presentations; there should be something for everyone. Please start letting folks in your local area know so that they can save the dates. Kristi, Steve and Becky and Cecil and I are driving together to Galveston for the national beekeeping meeting –I'm hoping that while we are locked in the car together that we can nail down a fantastic program! We will also keep our eyes open for future guest speakers.

Really, please let me know if you have any ideas for this program. I really value your input. So mark your calendars for March 10 and March 11, 2017.

*Joli*

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## *Holiday Recipes with Honey*



### **Shredded Turkey Sliders**

#### **Ingredients**

1 - turkey breast - 1 package - dry Italian Dressing - 32 ounces - low-sodium chicken broth - ½ cup - honey

Place ingredients in a slow cooker or crock pot. Start on high for one hour. Turn down to low and cook for at least another 6 to 8 hours. Remove turkey from broth and shred. Place in a shallow container with broth and cool quickly. Place in refrigerator overnight for flavors to meld. Place shredded turkey and broth back in crock pot or slow cooker and turn on low to reheat. Serve on slider buns. Serve lettuce leaves and tomato slices as condiments. BBQ sauce or mayo are also great sides.



### **Honey-glazed Sweet Potato Chips**

#### **Ingredients**

2 (about 1-1/4 lbs.) sweet potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced - 2 Tablespoons - butter or margarine, melted  
2 Tablespoons - honey - 1/2 teaspoon - ground cinnamon - Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 400°F. With veggie slicer, mandoline or food processor, thinly slice sweet potatoes. Arrange potato slices in a single layer on a lightly oiled cookie sheet. Combine butter and honey in a small bowl; toss the potatoes. Bake four to five minutes per side. Sprinkle with cinnamon, salt and pepper to taste.

These recipes are brought to us by **The National Honey Board**— for more tasty recipes and informative facts on honey, go to their website

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

# Youth Grant Project Successes

**Becky Tipton—3rd Vice President**

Our first two Youth Grant recipients have completed their two-year mentorship in with great success! The Abilene 4-H spin group, **Brown's Busy Beekeepers** and Olathe, **Boy Scout Troop 225** each presented their final accomplishments to our KHPA membership and received certificates of completion. It was exciting to see the growth of each group, from the "never been stung" club (not many members any more) to their plans for expansion and the coming years of the individual programs. We are so proud of their successes and of the small part KHPA has played in providing all the young bee ambassadors.

The grant recipients for the 2017 year have been selected. From Chanute, we will be providing hives and mentorship to **Cherry Street Youth Center**, director **Jennifer Shields** and master gardener **Denise Hastings**. The **Cherry Street** program is an afterschool program serving K-5 students with an intense gardening program for the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders (about 50 students). They garden every day! Adding bees to their program seems like a great fit and they are so excited about this opportunity. **Ron Smail** of Iola, KS has agreed to mentor this group. **Ron** is current president of the Heartland Beekeepers Association of SE KS (you can find them on Facebook on his Deer Creek Honey page). We (KHPA) met in Pittsburg in March to help support their new and growing association.

Our second grant recipient is **Saint Francis Community Services** master gardener, **Renee Thompson**. This group serves youth outside of public school, supporting children with special needs. They also have an extensive gardening program and would like to add bee hives both for the pollination and the opportunity to learn about and support our most beneficial insect. **Becky Tipton** will mentor this group along with **Lisa Tokach** (**Lisa** was one of the leaders of the **Brown's Busy Beekeepers** and has supported her children, **Sage** and **Rogan** (individual scholarship winners) in beekeeping for the past 5 years.) The **Saint Francis Community Services** facility is located near Salina, KS.

Congratulations to both of the winners, we are looking forward to helping you bee successful in this new adventure. Detailed information packets have been sent to both groups and we will get to meet their directors at our March meeting in Topeka. Thank you to all who submitted applications.

If you know of a group interested in adding honey bees and apiculture to their program, please direct them to our website for grant information.

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## State Fair

Thank you everyone who signed up to volunteer in the honey booth at the state fair. We all talked a lot about bees and sold a bunch of honey. The winners from the drawings are **Rose Lee** from Atchison. She chose the starter hive instead of one night's hotel reimbursement in Hutchison. The winners of the bug bafflers were **Shelley Kaiser** from Lincolnville, **Steve Tipton** from Meriden and **Wanda Morford** from Kanopolis. Thank you to all who signed up early. This helps to keep me from worrying about the staffing needs in the booth the weeks right before the fair.

**Kristi Sanderson—2nd Vice President**



**Ed Colby**, presenter at fall 2016 KHPA conference demonstrating hands-on mite count using a powdered sugar roll method. **Ed** also spoke about his take on neonicotinoid insecticides. The nucleus colony used for the count was donated by a retiring hobbyist in Northcentral Ks. It proved to be quite heavily infested with Varroa Mites, which have been since treated with Oxalic Acid vaporization. This represents a prime example of how treatment-free bee keeping may need to be carefully reconsidered.

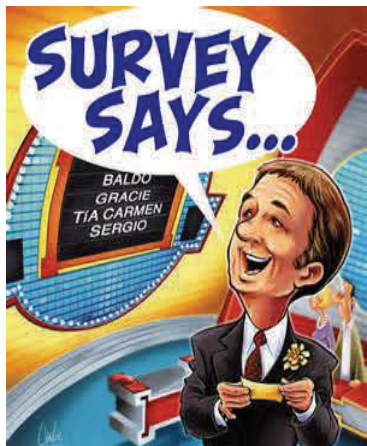
**Ed** was elected president of the Colorado State Beekeepers Assn. at their winter meeting in Castle Rock, Colo. on Nov. 5, 2016

Did you know?

**KHPA memberships can now be renewed online!!!**

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

# Just what kind of person keeps bees in Kansas?



As the tag line from the TV show *Family Feud* goes, so goes our first KHPA survey. Looking to see who represents the typical beekeeper in Kansas is the purpose of the survey. We want to thank everyone who has participated in the first KHPA beekeeper survey. The results will help us make sure we understand the constituency of membership and beekeepers in general from our state. This survey has been sent to some local/regional clubs and as those results arrive, we will update the data.

In short, this first survey is incomplete. It will be on-going to maintain a fluid and constantly updated status of just 'who really is the typical Kansas beekeeper?' One could generalize the results into a sentence or two. Profiling a general description does not represent us all individually, but represents a composite picture of a statistically average Kansas beekeeper. As time goes on that data will be updated. Perhaps we should have asked whether the respondent is male or female? We also should have added a space to input a response for some questions with 'other' as an optional answer. Surveys are new to KHPA and we will continue these in the future. We may ask for information such as- honey production, pest/disease control methods, etc. When you look at the general summary, perhaps there will be no surprises. We will provide occasional updates to the data and share them. Do you fit the mold? Don't be concerned at all if the summary is not quite 'you'.

For a profiled image of the 'average, typical Kansas beekeeper':

**The typical beekeeper in Kansas... has been a member of KHPA for less than ten years, maintain 1-5 hives in our South Central Region, is over 50 years old, has managed colonies of bees for less than ten years. Those bees are used to provide honey and other products of the hive, act as a fun hobby and to pollinate the neighborhood. They use Langstroth equipment and a mix of mostly Italian with a good number of Carniolan queens.**

If you have not already done so, please take a few moments to participate in the survey. It is available to anyone at your website's home page.

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

A more detailed summary is below for the various survey questions. This data was summed on November 2, 2016. The survey was sent to several local/regional clubs. As results come in from these sources. Survey results will be continually updated. (Due to some rounding off, the numbers do not always add to 100%.)

## How long have you been a member of KHPA?

10.5% were not members. 33.3% have been members for less than two years. 19.3% of the respondents have been a member for 3-5 years and 21.1% for 6-10 years. Members for over 20 years at 8.8% and 11-20 years were 7% of the respondents respectively.

## Regions where bees are kept- (more than one response possible)

Bee hives are maintained all over the state. 22% of Kansas bees are kept in the North Central Region, with 25.4% in both the Northeast and Northwest Regions. 27.1% in the Southcentral, with 3.4% in Southeast, and 1.7% in Southwest Region respectively. More than one response was allowed for this question as some beekeepers maintain hives in more than one region.

## Age of beekeepers-

30-39 years of age represented 2.4% of beekeepers. 48% are 60 or older. 35.6%, 50-59 and 13.6% of our Kansas beekeepers are 40-49.

## How many years have you been keeping honeybees?

35.6% have had bees for 1-5 years. 30.5% have had bees a little longer, at 6-10 years. Keeping bees for more than 20 years- 22%. 11-15 year and 16-20 year beekeepers were all tied at 1.7% each. Those yet to start keeping bees finished the numbers at 5.1%.

## How many colonies do you manage?

Statistics were all over the place in this category. Those who keep 1-5 colonies were the largest group with 30.5%. Next, those with 6-10 colonies were at 22%. Those keeping 21-25 were 11.9%. Those with 11-20 colonies make up 11.9% with the same percent for those managing over 50 colonies. Those who have yet to acquire bees or folks who keep 26-50 and colonies are managed by 7.1% respectively.

## Why do you have honeybees?

Several responses could be chosen for this category, so the results will exceed 100% total. **Most of us, at 80.7% keep bees to collect honey and products of the hive.** 59.6% of us have bee colonies 'for Fun', while a close number have bees for personal garden pollination at 57.9%. 17.5% of us choose to keep bees to sell hive products. 10.5% of the group consider themselves commercial honey producers and the same number chose 'other' reasons, with no specific items listed to explain. Commercial pollinators make up 5% and 'Other' at 7% of the beekeepers in this survey.

## What type of hives do you manage?

Again, multiple responses were possible as some people experiment with more than one hive configuration. Overwhelmingly, we keep bees in Langstroth equipment with 91.1%. 5.4% of our beekeepers either use Top Bar systems. With Warre hives making up 1.8%, along with 'Other', with one respondent using the Honey Flow Hive system. Finally, 3.6% of our survey respondents do not have bees, yet.

## Queen varieties?

This query was more or less a 'fill in the blanks' question, so a variety of responses occurred. Most of us use Italian queens, at roughly 65% and 25% have Carniolan. Some have 'mutts' or unknown varieties such as swarm queens with a few having Russians.



# What's Happening Around the State!

## Northeast Region

As 2016 is coming to an end, 2017 offers new opportunities. NEKBA has had some excellent leadership over the last 3 years and would like to thank the following members for all their efforts and many hours dedicated to this great organization. **Andy Nowachek** (President), **Alex Pantos** (2<sup>nd</sup> VP/Librarian), **Becky Tipton** (Program Chairperson), and **Dana Rommelfanger** (Secretary) have continued to lead our organization with an ever increasing membership, great programs with excellent learning opportunities, and an outlet for fellow beekeepers to come together for fellowship.

The new slate of potential officers coming in include: **Steve Messbarger** (President), **Gaylan Stanley** (2<sup>nd</sup> VP/Librarian), **Marlene Pantos** (Secretary), and **Chad Gilliland** (Program Chairperson). We look forward to these new potential officers and their upcoming commitment for the next 3 years. It will be a tall challenge to maintain such a high quality of leadership and monthly programs that we continually enjoy, but know that the incoming officers will work diligently to keep NEKBA moving in a positive direction.

Our upcoming December meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> is the annual cookie exchange and auction to benefit the youth scholarship program. Members donate beekeeping items, bee related gifts, and homemade goods to raise money for the 2017 scholarships. Save these other upcoming dates to join us in the northeastern corner of the state for our beginning beekeeper classes on March 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Keith Delaplane is one of our special guest presenters and this 2 day program is great for the beginning beekeeper, but is also a useful update and reminder for second and third year beekeepers as well. Our next great event is the Fun-day on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is a must attend event for all beekeepers of all ages and experience levels. An excellent slate of speakers and presentations will educate us all and offer a great time for beekeepers from all over the state and surrounding states to come together to share their experiences. **Jennifer Berry** from the University of Georgia and **Scott Debnam** from the University of Montana are just a taste of what is to come for this great event. Speaking of tastes, you will not want to miss out on the amazing honey ice cream that **Becky Tipton** makes every year to serve during our afternoon break.

Last but not least, NEKBA is proud that 2 of our very own members were chosen by the Kansas Honey Producers Association for Beekeepers of the Year for 2016. This is normally a single individual award, but **Steve and Becky Tipton** are a dynamic duo that continually offers their support and assistance to anyone who asks and work diligently to spread the word about beekeeping. They work tirelessly to move forward the art of beekeeping and we are excited for them and thank them for all they do for NEKBA, KHPA and beekeeping state wide.

**Chad Gilliland**

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## North Central Region

The North Central KHPA beekeepers met in October and talked about winter preparations and also had time to answer general questions members had about beekeeping. Our guests were Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney. Cecil gave a good presentation on Winter preparation, which then led to a number of questions from

those attending. This group is not yet "organized", but has met several times this past year and will be meeting in early 2017.

In other news, **Jim Morford** had 8 hives from the KHPA state apiary. Seven survived, and all but one has at least 100 pounds of honey stores for the girls to have to eat through the Winter. In general honey flow came quite late this year in all our hives, but, in the end, it was the best harvest we've had in at least ten years. One of the positive developments this Fall was the number of North Central Kansas beekeepers who were at the Fall KHPA meeting in Hays!

**Jim Morford**

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## Southwest Region

Hello from the Great Plains!

The Southwest Kansas Beekeepers would like to thank the KHPA for having the fall meeting in western Kansas, and for including topics of special interest to the Great Plains. This is indeed the most difficult place to raise bees in the state. We will all be watching with great interest to see the work involved and hopefully the success Ft. Hays State University has in restoring bee friendly prairie. It is a lot of work, and we wish you students much success.

After a very mild November, winter finally descended on Southwest Kansas. Our bees are tucked in for the winter. Most of our members fed syrup and/or pollen patties to our bees this fall to help them through the winter, and most of us will have candy boards ready to install when the need arises.

We had our first ever "Bee Chat" at Applebee's in Garden City in November. It was fun getting to know each other better. We all got a chance to taste test **Connie Hopkins'** "Honey Spoons" and "Honey Candy." They were wonderful. **Connie**, please let us know if you need our help for more taste testing product development. We look forward to our second "Bee Chat" in the spring.

**Carolyn Simpson**

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## Northwest Region

A number of NW Region KHPA members attended the fall association meeting in Hays October 28-29, 2017. Some tentative dates and locations were chosen for future gatherings of the group. The next gathering was held, Sunday, December 4, 2016 at the Wa Keeney Public Library. An update on KHPA opened the meeting, followed by a session called: **Winter Preparation- What I Should Have Done Long by Now**. **Mark Wood** discussed record keeping and tax consequence options for the hobbyist, small scale beekeeper. Quite a few questions arose from that presentation. The library was a great accommodation, with ample space, plenty of tables & chairs along with a wi-fi hot spot for internet research. The meeting ended with the group choosing some tentative dates and location for the next gathering. As the group moves their meetings around to help accommodate those who must travel some distance, this next one is slated to be held in Hill City at the 4-H building in mid-February. The final date will be chosen upon confirmation of meeting room availability. **Mark Wood**

# Out and About



Dr. Keith Delaplane spoke at Colorado State Beekeepers Association Winter meeting, Nov. 5, 2016 at the fairgrounds of Castle Rock, Colo. **The Honeybee as a Super Organism** was a uniquely interesting topic. Dr. Delaplane authored the popular book **First Lessons in Beekeeping** and co-authored **Crop Pollination by Bees**. He is an entomology professor at the University of Georgia at Athens. He has authored or coauthored almost 80 bee-related research documents. We are honored to have him as our headline speaker at the Spring 2017 KHPA meeting in Topeka. Mark your calendars! March 10-11, 2017



Renaissance Festival—Kansas City—Oct. 2016—Queen's Apiary

## Welcome New KHPA members!

- Michele Clark—Berryton, Ks.
- Randy Ford—Dodge City, Ks.
- John Kellstrom—Manhattan, Ks.
- Brad Larson—Oberlin., Ks.
- Jon Mansel—St. John, Ks.
- Stan Neidecker—Spring Hill, Ks.
- Tammy Rink—Rose Hill, Ks.
- Randall VonFeldt—Russell, Ks.
- Josh Walters—St. Francis, Ks.

We welcome these new association members! Please extend a warm 'hello' and get to know them.



Rich Abel, KHPA member from Derby, Ks. was featured in an Oct. 26 beekeeping article of their local newspaper, the Derby Informer. Rich is in the process of working with the Derby city council to help them pass a revised ordinance that better serves local beekeepers' needs. Derby officials are very warm to helping their local beekeeping citizens.

## Sternberg Museum of Natural History— Bees!

On Kansas Day, 2017, the Sternberg Museum of Natural History at Hays, Ks. will begin hosting a travelling bee exhibit. Activities while this exhibit is in the world famous Sternberg Museum will include—mead tasting, beekeeping equipment, a year in the life of a hive and beginning beekeeping training courses. The image at left shows a part of this exhibit.

For more information, go to: (many details pending)  
<http://sternberg.fhsu.edu/>

Hours: Tuesdays—Saturdays 9:00 AM—6:00 PM  
Experience ***Bee-lieve it or Not Exhibit Gallery*** at:

Sternberg Museum of Natural History  
3000 Sternberg Dr., Hays, Ks. 67601  
785-628-4286



## Tidbits



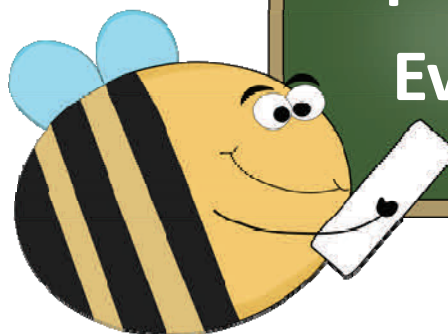
Infrared (IR) camera images used to find a colony extent within wall stud cavities of a vacant farm house. The brightest yellow area is the warmer part of the colony—brood nest chamber. In this cut out, IR imagery made it possible to determine the extent to which this colony had occupied wall cavities before cutting them open. Two complete stud cavities were full of honeycomb. Unfortunately, the photos of the comb-filled interior stud cavities are lost. While not many have ready access to an IR camera, but if you know someone who does, ask them to come along on your next building bee removal project! Many home inspectors and energy advisors have these tools. Using IR technology aided the team performing this cut-out by 'seeing' the extent and location of the brood area before making a cut.

### ***Backyard Beekeeping Question—BBQ***

**Q.** In getting my bees ready for winter, I was advised to include some supplemental 'patties' in their hives. I'm a little confused, what is the difference with Pollen patties & Winter patties?  
1st Year New-bee

**A—** Great question, First! Today, we have quite a choice in food supplements, Essential Oils, chemical treatments, medications, and so forth to help our bees survive pests, diseases and other conditions. Pollen Patties, as the name implies are loaded with pollen and/or a pollen substitute. This is designed to help stimulate egg laying and brood rearing right before nectar flows. So they are designed really as a spring time food supplement. Feeding them in winter could stimulate egg/brood production and this is not what we need with Kansas' winter weather. Winter Patties are full of carbohydrates among other supplemental food items designed to help bees survive harsh winter conditions and avoid potential starvation from running low on stored honey. Remember also not to feed liquid syrup when temperatures very low. Bees fed liquid syrup need to be able to take cleansing flights. BBQ

## Upcoming Events



### **American Honey Producers Assn. & American Beekeeping Federation**

Joint meeting January 10—14 Galveston, Tex.  
For information and registration, go to:

<http://www.abfnet.org/nabeekeepingconference.com>

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### **2017 Spring KHPA Meeting**

March 10-11, 2017 at Ramada Inn  
420 SE 6th St. Topeka, Ks.

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

Room reservations **785-234-5400**

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### **Northeast Ks Beekeepers Assn.**

#### **2017 Beekeeping Class**

Sundays, March 5th & 12th 8:00-5:00  
Douglas Co. Fair grounds, Lawrence, Ks.  
2110 Harper ST., Lawrence, Ks. 66046

<http://www.nekba.org>

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### **Heartland Apicultural Society**

Conference July 13-15, 2017

Evansville, Indiana

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

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### **Sternberg Museum at Hays, Kansas**

Hosting a travelling exhibit on Bees. This exhibit was designed by Purdue University and will be in the Sternberg from Jan. 29—April 2, 2017. Exhibit to include interactive bee teaching displays, beekeeping equipment and a 'year in the life of a honeybee hive'. ***Bee-lieve it or not Exhibit Gallery***

Kansas Honey Producer's Association  
Cappings  
R Burns  
7601 W. 54th Terrace  
Shawnee Mission KS 66202

## Address Service Requested

## Kansas Honey Producer's Association Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ *E-mail Address* \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Kansas Honey Producer's Association per year (Jan.-Dec.) \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family members wanting voting rights \$1.00 per person \$1.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family member's names:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Membership (18 years of age or under) \$7.50 \_\_\_\_\_ American Bee Journal 1 year subscription \$24.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Bee Culture Magazine (formerly "Gleanings") 1 year subscription \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: KHPA or Kansas Honey Producer's Association or pay on line at [www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)**

**Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66202 Phone# 913-831-6096 or email- [rburns@kc.rr.com](mailto:rburns@kc.rr.com)**

The Kansas Honey Producer's Association is a non-profit IRC 501(c)5 agricultural-educational organization, run by dedicated volunteers, and supported primarily by membership dues (subscriptions). The IRC status means that the association is a tax-exempt organization. While donations are always welcome, they are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution. However, membership dues and subscriptions may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

