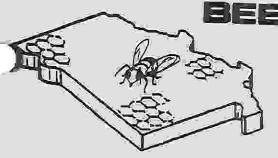
MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS

ASSOCIATION



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VOLUME 23

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
JUNE 1985

NUMBER 2

DEAR BEEKEEPING FRIENDS.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 1985 FALL STATE MEETING

DATE: Saturday, October 19

PLACE: United Church of Christ

118 W. Ashley

Jefferson City, Mo. 65101

Dr. Flernoy Jones, your Program Chairman, is presently working hard to put together an interesting program with top speakers.

Some alternate activities are also being planned for the beekeeper's family. There will be a Walking Tour of the Sites of Jefferson City. Also there will be a Flower Arrangement Workshop given by Mrs. Burma Walther. The flower arrangement will consist of flowers and various bee related products such as honeydipper, etc. The only charge for the Workshop will be a minimal fee to cover the cost of the materials used. If you wish to participate in the Workshop, please send your name, address with zip code, and phone number to Mrs. Burma Walther, 1922 North Circle, Jefferson City, Mo. 65101. Mrs. Walther requests that you let her know by September 1 so that she has time to purchase the correct amount of materials.

ATTENTION: CRAFTERS AND BEE SUPPLY DEALERS

There will be area available for the set up of displays and sales. The cost will be \$10 for a cafeteria-size table. Contact Mr. John Wlather, 1922 North Circle, Jefferson City, Mo. 65101 (Phone number: (314) 635-2902) to make arrangements. The deadline is September 1.

HONEY BEE ** THE STATE INSECT

On Thursday, June 13, Joy McClement, secretary to Representative Sam Dowd called to inform us that House Bill Number 281 had passed the House and was now on its way to the Governor's office for his signature. House Bill Number 281 is the bill that makes the Honeybee the State Insect for Missouri. All that is required to make it law is the Governor's signature. Senator Dowd asks that each of you send a letter or postcard to the Governor asking for his signature on House Bill Number 281.

Send your letter or postcard to Governor John Ashcroft, Executive Office, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101. Do this today!!! The Honeybee will then be our State Insect!!!

Approximately 132 individuals attended the Spring State Meeting. We wish to extend our CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. MIKE ROLING WHO WAS CHOSEN 1985 MISSOURI BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR!!!!

Mike is an associate professor of entomology (Ph.D.) at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield. He teaches courses in beekeeping and also supervises the colonies at the Experimental Station at Mountain Grove that are used for pollination.

Mike keeps quite a number of colonies in and around Ozark, Missouri, and is continually experimenting with different devices for improvement of his operation. Collection of pollen is interesting to him. He is using several different traps for comparison. He is and has been very active in the Beekeepers of the Ozarks Association in various capacities. He is a popular speaker for the local associations in the Ozarks area.

Mike's avid interest in the history of beekeeping in Missouri has meant countless hours spent researching magazines and newspapers over the State looking for record of these activities. One of the results of this research is the series of articles that have been appearing in this newspetter under the heading MISSOURI BEEKEEPING TIME CAPSULES. Topics already published have been "Early Beekeeping in Missouri", "Firsts", and "State Meetings". His article on "The State Inspector" will be found in this newsletter. Four more articles under the TIME CAPSULE heading will be published in future newsletters.

Several of Mike's articles have been accepted by the various bee journals. The next will appear in the Missouri Conservation magazine.

The State Association has been fortunate to have Mike hold several positions - Program Chairman, Secretary and Board Member. He has also worked in the State Fair Honey Booth numerous times. In every case he did an outstanding job.

With his knowledge of beekeeping, his interest in the history of beekeeping, and his willingness to talk and work with beekeepers, Mike is not only the Beekeeper of the Year but also a Master Beekeeper, CONGRATULATIONS, MIKE!!!

On May 7 Steve Forrest, the President of the Southern States Beekeepers Federation, sent a letter to John Block, the Secretary of Agriculture, protesting the cancellation of the position of Federal Extension Apiculturist.

"As you know the position of Federal Extension Apiculturist was lost when research funds were re-allocated. This makes absolutely no sense. Why increase research and eliminate any possibility of the research being utilized by our industry? We worked very hard to get this much needed position and with one fell swoop of a bureaucratic pen it was gone."

Mr. Forrest asks that Mr. Block review "this situation and let us all know why this position was lost and what we can do to get this very important position back for our industry".

It would be helpful if each of us would lend our voice to this cause. Drop a short letter or postcard to Secretary Block making your opinion heard. Write to The Honorable John Block, Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

and the report

AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION ESSAY CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for Brad Campbell, a 4-H Club member from Warsaw, Missouri, for winning 2nd place in the 1985 American Beekeeping Federation's Essay Contest on the topic "The Value of the Honey Bee to Mankind During the Rest of this Century".

Brad is a 6th grade student at R-9 South School in Warsaw. He lives with his parents on a farm. Brad is 12 years old and has been in Entomology as a 4-H project for three years. Computers and writing are two of his other hobbies. Recently he has added photography to his interests. Brad is an active member of Turkey Creek 4-H Club.

Brad's prize as 2nd place winner from the American Beekeeping Federation was \$100. And, in recognition of Brad's achievement, the Missouri State Beekeepers Association has given him a three-year membership in the State Association.

Brad's winning essay follows on pages 4 through 6. CONGRATULATIONS AGAIN, BRAD!!!

THE VALUE OF THE HONEY BEE TO MANKIND DURING THE REST OF THIS CENTURY by Brad Campbell

For thousands of years the honey bee has been helpful to man. People have enjoyed eating honey while using the honey bee in crop pollination. "Even the ancient Egyptians raised honey bees."

Despite the problems of less forage land and pesticides, the honey bee will continue to be valuable to man for the rest of this century.

As urbanization of rural areas continues, backyard gardens are necessary due to the lack of land. "Beekeeping is a part of a yearning to do something that brings us closer to nature, to get away from the machines and computers and the synthetic quality of much of modern life, to experience the thrill of producing something from the earth." People are realizing that beekeeping is not so difficult and requires only bees, equipment, and a hive. Having a bit of nature in your yard is fun and there is all the honey you want to eat too.

Honey bees aid mankind through crop and flower pollination. Some of the commercial crops that honey bees pollinate are cotton, alfalfa, soybeans, safflower, broccoli, turnips, cucumbers, apples, squash, tomatoes, nuts, fruit, and citrus fruit. Growers of seed and fruit crops rent bees in ever increasing quantities. They want the bees they rent to stay on their acreage. Today a bee is being bred that is specifically suitable for alfalfa pollination. Bees specifically designed genetically to pollinate certain other crops will eventually be developed. " Entomologists have been experimenting with chemical and physical means to attract honey bees to pollination areas. They try certain light wavelengths, sounds, special : plant smells, and special colors. These methods will also keep honey bees from wandering into populated areas or areas where pesticides are being used. 7 "Of immediate concern is the need for a repellent that can be applied to a field to drive off all pollinators while a pesticide is applied. Then, when the toxic effect of the spray has disappeared, the repellent will dissipate and the bees return to work."8 Researchers should be able to find answers to questions like how to keep honey bees away from pesticides and in specific crop fields through the help of high technology. I predict that the honey bee will be used even more widely for pollination purposes. Without honey bees to carry pollen, many fruits and flowers would disappear.

In my opinion, modern personal computers will make beekeeping even easier. Already on the market are software programs for the garden. O Computer programs can be adapted or written using the production and other hive records. "Some scheduling software

packages allow you to keep your data in the file and change the dates to conform with the new year." Beekeepers could exchange information and research results through a computer network link or user's groups. Commercial flower and crop growers could advertise for specific honey bees through computer bulletin boards such as CompuServe. The recent development of smaller and less expensive computers will enable the backyard and professional beekeeper to be more efficient.

As world population grows, the need for food increases but there is less land on which to grow the food. My solution is to use land more efficiently. Honey bees could be part of this plan. "The bee is adaptable to many environments. Honey bees native only to Europe, Asia, and Africa have adapted well to all but the polar regions of the world." 15 If honey were to replace sugar as the main sweetener, there would be fertile land that could produce fruits and vegetables instead of cane or sugar beets. The honey bee could pollinate these crops and make honey at the same time. Also, the beeswax could be used in products such as gum, lipstick, and crayons. 16 I realize that this could only be done on government land because the sugar growers might want to see the results before agreeing to do it.

If the current trend back to natural food continues, honey will be used more. "Honey is nature's perfect sweet available in commercial quantities and isn't man made."17 Honey is more nutritious than refined sugar because honey contains vitamins and minerals as well as organic acids and proteins. "Honey has a built-in antibacterial substance based upon the production of peroxide by an enzyme which is added by the bee. This active sterility of honey has caused it to be used for wound dressing." 19 An English doctor in 1973 wrote that he had used honey under a 20 dry dressing to promote healing of burns and ulcers effectively. The use of honey dressing for burns has long been given as a natural home remedy.

Honey bees will continue to be valuable in producing food and in pollination. Advances in technology will allow us to use the honey bee's services even more in the future.

FOOTNOTES

- "Sticky Sweet", Madeleine Furey Livaudais, Ranger Rick, February 1976. 42
- Guide to Bees and Honey, Ted Hooper (Rodale Press, Emmaus, PA, 1977) 193

- 3. The Beekeeper's Handbook, Diana Sammataro and Alphonse Avitabile (Charles Scribner, New York, NY, 1978) Foreward
- 4. "The Bees and Me", Jonathan Walley, Ranger Rick, June 1981. 44
- 5. Guide to Bees and Honey, Ted Hooper (Rodale Press, Emmaus, PA, 1977) 215-225
- Practical Beekeeping, Enoch Tompkins and Roger Griffith (Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont, 1979) 107
- 7. Practical Beekeeping, Enoch Tompkins and Roger Griffith (Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont, 1979) 108
- 8. Practical Beekeeping, Enoch Tompkins and Roger Griffith (Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont, 1979) 109
- 9. Honey Bees, Jane Lecht, National Geographic Society, 1973. 28
- 10. "The Computer: A New Tool For the Garden", Jeff Ball, Family Computing, March 1984. 40
- 11. "The Computer: A New Tool For the Garden", Jeff Ball, Family Computing, March 1984. 39
- 12. "User's Groups: Strength in Numbers", Lester Brooks, Family Computing, March 1984, 50
- 13. "Making Connections", Larry Bihlmeyer, Family Computing, April 1984. 80
- 14. "Fishing For A Computer?", Nick Sullivan, Family Computing, May 1984. 58
- Practical Beekeeping, Enoch Tompkins and Roger Griffith (Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont, 1979) 105
- 16. Honey Bees, Jane Lecht, National Geographic Society, 1973. 27
- 17. Honey Magic Recipes, Sioux Honey Association, Sioux City, Iowa.

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- 18. Guide to Bees and Honey, Ted Hooper (Rodale Press, Emmaus, PA, 1977) 233
- 19. Guide to Bees and Honey, Ted Hooper (Rodale Press, Emmaus, PA,
- 20. Natural Home Remedies, Mark Bricklin. (Rodale Press, Emmaus, PA, 1977) 436

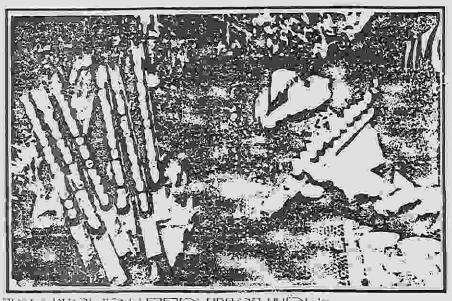
Professor of Apiculture, Agricultural Technical Institute and regular columnia for GLEANINGS IN BEE CULTURE



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Cat. No. X80 \$35.00 (Postage included)

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The Last Apple? Beckeeping in the 1980's, by Connor A comprehensive view of industry problems and threats, with "underpollination as the central issue" 60 sildes, script and tape \$59.

The Honey bee and Politication, by Divelbiss. The ideal program for classroom and general public use, reviewing key aspects of beekeeping and bee activities. 81 stides, script and tape \$58.

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Honey Bee Diseases and Pests, by Connor. Shows all major adult and larval hive pests, including Acarapis woodl and Varroe. 60 slides, notes and cassette tape. \$45.

Honey Bees and Pesticides, by Johanson. A complete summary of how bees are affected by insecticides, and what to do about it 80 slides and detailed notes. \$58.

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Larry Connor's

BEEKEEPING EDUCATION SERVICE

The 1/2" VHS video tape shown above and the slides and tapes or script shown to the left have been purchased by the State Association for use in the locals. The reservations maybe made on a first come basis and will be handled the same way as before.

The State pays the outgoing UPS charges and the locals will pay the return charges.

The descriptive narrative may be an advantage in that you may stop between slides for any discussion.

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING
MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
March 23, 1984
Memorial Union Building
University of Missouri-Columbia
Columbia, Missouri

The meeting was called to order by president John Walther at the conclusion of the program. The treasurer's report was given by Truman Hardin and is to appear in the next news letter. Mr. Hardin reported on the financial advisability of maintaining the dues at \$3 per member. As the income from the dues nearly meets the expenses, he commented that the present level of dues is adequate. Henry Vincent made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Stan Garton seconded and the motion passed.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by past secretary Michael Roling. As there was no discussion, Clayton Johnson moved to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and passed.

Committees were called on to report. The only report was from Kenneth Hauenstein on the quality of surplus government honey being given to institutions. He had found no complaints from users of this honey in his area. There were no other reports on this matter.

Under unfinished business, Michael Roling reported on George Vanarsdall's nomination to the University of Missouri-Columbia's Ag Alumni Association. Unfortunately, Mr. Vanarsdall was not elected to the association at this time, but his name may be resubmitted at a later date.

Under new business, Jim Stewart gave a report put together . by himself and Neal Bergman concerning the government's elimination of the honey loan program. They pointed out that Congressional representatives are receiving erroneous information concerning bees, honey, and the honey market. Congress people have indicated that they will listen to our input. Stewart and Bergman recommended a letter writing campaign to Congress asking for a continuation of the honey loan program, even on a reduced level of support, or a change of the program to establish a target price, with the government making up the difference between the target price and market price so that American beekeepers might fairly compete with foreign honey producers at a reduced cost to the government. Neal Bergman then made a motion that the Missouri State Beekeepers Association go on record as supporting the continuation of the honey loan program in some form and that an effort be made to correct the erroneous information currently contained in the Congressional Record. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed. Jim Stewart then made a motion that the association forward a packet of information on the subsidy program to individual

members for their consideration. Motion was seconded by Curt Dennis. A discussion followed. The question was called for, a vote taken, and the measure passed.

As the next order of business, the president asked for . comments on the mite problem. Dr. Jones started by urging participation in any sampling program instituted for early detection of Acarapis woodi. Other comments ranged from killing all infested hives to letting mites take their course and let mite weakened colonies die out over winter as a self-controlling measure. Some concern was expressed about illegal entry of honeybees into Missouri to escape mite detection in another State. The consensus on this problem was to notify Joe Francka's office of any violations of Missouri's apiculture law. A suggestion was made to have the local associations discuss the problem and bring recommendations to the fall 1985, meeting.

Carol Boeckmann, via John Walther, requested the submission of articles, ideas for articles, news items, etc. for the quarterly news letter.

There was a request from the floor for a report or comments from anyone with any experience with the electronic device called Bee Calm. Chester Crain obliged by giving his first impression of this gadget . He thought that it just might work.

A member of a local association asked if more slide sets would be bought by the state association. Truman Hardin reported that more should become available as the present ones have been well used. They can also help the state association maintain its non-profit status.

George Vanarsdall reported that Karl Kalthoff of Lexington has suffered a stroke recently and is in serious condition. Visits and other means of cheer would probably be appreciated. Mr. Vanarsdall also reported that Tom Hawman of Lock Springs suffered the loss of his son around Thanksgiving time last year. As the Hawmans have sold most of their bees, they have some equipment left to sell.

Jim Beebe made a motion to set aside up to \$500 for the purchase of slide sets for distribution to local associations. The motion was seconded and approved.

Truman Hardin presented the Beekeeper of the Year award to Michael (Mike) Roling. Special comment was made on Mike's historical reporting and his publication of an article in Gleanings in Bee Culture. Michael graciously accepted the award and warned the membership of five more impending articles.

As this concluded the business, a motion was made to adjourn. This was seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

you thoughten

MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPER ASSOCIATION Financial Report

BALANCE ON HAND October 15, 1984	\$7683.38	
INCOME		
Dues - Oct. 15, 1984 thro March 20, 1		
Interest - Checking Account	22.50	
Farm and Home Money Market		
Book Sales - Fair Account	<u>13.90</u> \$888.09	
	\$8571.47	
EXPENSES		
State Meeting - Springfield	\$329.20	
Newsletter	552.60	
Tressurer	77.10 35.89	
Slides-Film - UPS and mileage Bank Service charge - 2 mos. Debit	14.00	
Printed checks - debit	13.89	
Secretary of State	10.00	
Dues refund - Midwestern	42 .00	
Honey Booth deposit	175.00	
Beekeeper award	40.91	
	\$72.80.88	
ASSETS	. AS 2.23 . WS	
Checking account	\$1396.26 5884.62	ь.
Farm and Home Money Market	\$7280.88	
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EXPENSES - for comparison NEWS-	SLIDES	
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1984 March to Oct. 410.00 229.32 11. 84-85 Oct to March 329.20 552.60	43 16.36 169.19 102.46 938 77.10 35.89 92.91 1262	
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DUES paid by Associations - October 15, Boone Regional 15 paid \$45.00	North Missouri 8 paid \$24.00	
Central Missouri 14 paid 42.00	Ozarks 13 paid 39.00	
Dallas County 11 paid 33.00	Prairie Country 14 paid 42.00	
Jefferson County 16 paid 48.00	Two Rivers 10 paid 30.00	
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MISSOURI BEEKEEPING TIME CAPSULE

The State Inspector by Mike Roling

It was a first for Missouri. The state legislature provided for an apiary inspector in 1907. This person was to aid and assist the development of the honey industry in the state. Being an inspector, his chief and primary job was the prevention and suppression of contagious or infectious diseases. The inspector had to be a practical beekeeper and could hold office for a term of two years. More than one term in this office was allowed. The apiary office was initially given an appropriation of \$2000. Appropriations were for a biennial. The pay was four dollars, for each day doing his actual duties, and reimbursement for necessary travel expenses: provided that the total expenditures did not exceed one thousand dollars in any one year. That "first" was M. E. Darby of Springfield, Missouri.

What did our debutant find in bee land? Well, in 1912, a record year for his reports, he found an infestation rate of 10 percent,—thirty-one counties infested with foulbrood and another fifty counties surrounding these thirty-one likely to be infested at any time. The lowest level, 1.4 percent, of infestations was found in 1913. During his tenure, for which records are available, he inspected twenty-two thousand, four hundred and sixty-five colonies. Of these, he found one thousand, five hundred and sixty-three that was contaminated with foulbrood, or 6.9 percent. Some years, optimism would shine through his report. For example, 1910: "During the season for inspection work 3.635 colonies were examined with the result that one hundred and forty colonies, or a little less than four percent were found diseased. This is more than a fifty percent gain in our efforts to control bee disease, which certainly is a very gratifying result to be obtained in four years. . "

However, if we examine the number of beehives in the state, we would arrive at an approximate figure of two hundred thousand. Some estimates of the day stated that the number could be as high as two hundred and fifty thousand. But for argument's sake, if we assume two hundred thousand colonies, we find that no more than 2.6 percent of the colonies were actually inspected during any one year. With that much unseen resevoir for disease, there really was no reason for optimism and no such optimism emerged in the 1911 report when the

figures rebounded to 8 percent.

What happened? What made the job an unsolvable problem? Let's face it, the man had 69,674 square miles to investigate. That doesn't sound like much, now does it? Especially with the whopping appropriation and the fantastic road system that existed in the early 1900s.

The immense size of the territory to be covered was well recognized by Inspector Darby and he took every opportunity to address the situation to state officials in his annual report (January 19, 1910). "As was pointed out in my last year's reports, this work could best be accomplished by special deputies appointed by the inspector for

special work in diseased districts..... It is impossible for the inspector to stay and personally attend to all such cases, for he never could get over all his territory." Another example of his relentless attacks concerning the problem is taken from his report of the 1913 season: "The past season has demonstrated the need of additional help in this work of fighting bee disease more than any preceding one since this work was started It is impossible for one man to cover the whole state and deal with the conditions in each diseased district as they should be dealt with. For example, results have not been satisfactory at Mexico. Benton City, and Wellsville. The beekeepers there have not taken hold of the work as they should."

Don't assume that the size and the lack of assistants were the only problems. Try these: cool and excessive rainy weather in the spring and early summer (1909), extremely hot and dry conditions made work difficult and cut the blooming season short (1909, 1910, 1913). This latter situation caused problems with robbing. This problem was enlarged upon in his 1913 report: "... very seldom could an apiary of any size be inspected without having to suspend operations one or more times before completing work unless a tent could be used, and most of the time the tent proposition was an impractical one." Personal illness cost a great part of another year (1914).

Recall that another duty of the office was promotion of the industry. Mr. Darby performed this function on numerous occasions. He attended many beekeepers' meetings reciting disease reports and extolling the virtues of beekeeping and the world of good they did as pollinators. He may have pursued this job with too much vigor as witnessed by this quip: "... I have been censured pretty heavily by some for trying to educate the people to better beekeeping. The claim is made that too many will go into the business and ruin it, . . . " (That we should all be that good an educator.) Inspector Darby provided demonstrations for the Missouri State Fairs. He exhibited a "Honey Map of Missouri" at the Missouri State Fair of 1910. The "Honey Map" had the configuration of the state of Missouri: the medium-honeycomb. His caption on the map read, "Built by the combined forces of three strong colonies of bees, under the supervision of the State Inspector." His public relations extended to land shows as well. These events were held around the state and demonstrated various aspects of apiculture. At one show in Spring-field, Mr. Darby had a display that included a minature house made of beeswax. At this same show, he gave an address concerning, of course, bees and beekeeping. These shows were remarkable successes. It was estimated that as many as 40,000 people attended the demonstrations and papers during the course of one day. With Springfield having a population of approximately 35,000, you can see that the man was getting good coverage.

Alas, the position was not to remain. In 1915 and 1916 no appropriations were made for the position and Inspector Darby was left with a \$200 debt because of work he had begun before failure of passage of the appropriation. After one final appeal in 1916, imploring

the legislature to provide funds, M. E. Darby disappears from the state reports. He also disappears from the city directory about the same time. Where he once lived in Springfield, a four-lane highway now runs through his living room. He fulfilled the duties of the office as well as any human being. The tasks were too enormous for one man. His protests went unheeded in order to benefit his immediate condition. But many of his suggestions would be implemented for succeeding inspectors in the 1920s.

Wait! What's this I see? Mr. Darby was not finished with the bee world even if Missouri was finished with him. He was elected as secretary-treasurer of the Florida State Beekeepers, he spoke at national conventions and authored a number of articles, one of which demonstrated that the Missouri experience definitely stuck with him, "... Many of our beekeepers must be from the "Show Me" state for they have to be shown and SHOWN, to get them to see the advantages of cooperating with one another ... "You might conclude, "Gone, but he had not forgotten."

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HAVE A GOOD SUMMER!!!

Carol Boeckmann Editor

MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSN. 619 Mendelssohn Drive Kirkwood, Missouri 63122

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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