



Missouri State Beekeepers Association
PO Box 7514 Columbia, Missouri 65205
www.mostatebeekeepers.org

June 2015

Eugene Makovec
Editor
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SEDALIA 2015
AUG 13-23



Missouri State Fair is just around the corner

August 13-23 in Sedalia - booth help needed!

With the slogan, "Show Offs Welcome", the Missouri State Fair runs this year from August 13-23 in Sedalia. The 400-acre fairgrounds will present premier livestock shows and competitive exhibits, and first-class professional entertainment. Mark your calendar for the summer's best family vacation experience!

The fair will showcase the best of Missouri agriculture; competitions from bull riding to tractor pulls; professional entertainment from Alabama, The Fray, The Grass Roots and many others; rural lifestyle experiences; hands-on science, technology and innovation; family-friendly amenities for everyone from infants to mature adults; and other action-packed activities. And did we mention corn dogs?

The Missouri State Fair is the perfect blend of activities for a memorable family outing. The midway carnival includes games and rides for children and thrill seekers of all ages. The nightlife on the fairgrounds kicks up each evening with free music on the Budweiser Stage and music stars performing on the stage of the Pepsi Grandstand.

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HONEY BILL PASSES LEGISLATURE

Will remove commercial kitchen requirement, label warning

by Eugene Makovec

The MSBA scored a major regulatory victory in the Missouri legislature during the 2015 session that ended May 15.

Senate Bill 500, which eliminates a commercial kitchen bottling requirement for third party honey sales, along with a "not inspected" label warning for direct sales, passed both the House and Senate by lopsided bipartisan margins.

But it was not nearly as easy as it sounds.

When Senator Jeanie Riddle introduced the bill on February 24th, we were told by some that it was already too late to get it passed during the 2015 session ending May 15. They were almost right, though not for the expected reasons.

The bill was assigned to the Senate Agriculture, Food Production and Outdoor Resources Committee, but a scheduled March 11 hearing was cancelled due to Senator Riddle's illness. A group of five MSBA members, including four on the Executive Board, had prepared testimony and planned to meet in Jefferson City on the morning of the Wednesday hearing, but were notified late Tuesday that it had been postponed.

Meanwhile, a companion House bill, HB 1093, had been introduced March 3rd by Jay Houghton of Martinsburg, near Columbia. It was fortunate that our group was prepped and ready, because we learned on the evening of Friday, March 13, that it was scheduled for a hearing the following Tuesday, St. Patrick's Day, in front of the House Agriculture Policy Committee. Rep. Houghton chairs that committee, which is why Senator Riddle's office had suggested we ask him to sponsor the bill. He had not returned my messages initially, but introduced the bill after a request from my own representative, Randy Pietzman.

Our group met outside the Capitol's coffee shop for some last-minute review of our strategy, then proceeded down the hall to the hearing room. After hearing testimony on a "farm-to-table" bill, Rep. Houghton handed the gavel to Vice Chairman Tom Hurst, then proceeded to the witness table to introduce HB 1093.

Since Houghton had never met with any of us, his understanding of the issues involved was limited. He began with a statement along the lines of, "Well, it appears the Health Department is overstepping its bounds again, and we need to rein them in." He mentioned the arduous commercial kitchen requirement, and then asked for

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From the President

by Valerie Duever

Hello all.

What a wonderful Spring it has been!! Our hives are doing fantastic. Seems like everything is in bloom and, for the most part, the weather is cooperating for a change.

I know everyone is busy attending to their hives so I'll make this letter short and sweet. Just want to mention some highlights so you are aware.

First, just a reminder that National Pollinators Week is June 15 -21, 2015. Would be a great time to get together with your local area farmers market or garden center to talk bees and flowers to the general public. National Honeybee Day is August 15th, so that would be another good time to keep our momentum going.

Second, the MO State Fair is August 13 thru August 23rd this year and if your local association hasn't done so, have someone contact Wanda Johnston or Dean Sanders to volunteer for a four-hour shift to help out these hardworking folks. Their information is on the MSBA website.

Third, you should be seeing flyers and information for our State Conference that will be held in Columbia on October 16 and 17 with Michael Bush as the keynote speaker. We are very excited to have Michael discuss his methods of natural beekeeping and this is sure to be a big draw for our newer beekeeper friends. Please sign up early to get an extra prize - details later on in our newsletter.

Fourth, we are still trying out this "rotating" of meeting places for our Executive Board. The idea was to host these meetings in different neighborhoods so local associations could attend and participate. Our next Executive meeting will be June 13th on the Eastern side of the state. Watch the calendar on our MSBA website for other meeting dates and times.

Fifth, things are starting to move along with the process of setting up a certification program. More on that at the Fall Conference.

Sixth ... and finally, the best news of all. If you were outside, working your hives I would assume, and didn't realize it, the honey bill finally passed. WOO HOO!! The Governor should sign it in August ... but it looks to be a go. This means no more requirements for a commercial kitchen to sell to your local grocery store. You still have to follow the rules and regulations of weights and measures for labeling your products and you will still need to keep track of your sales. But we won't have the extra expense and hassle of setting up a separate bottling room or the frustration of being contacted by the health department for inspections.

A huge, huge THANK YOU goes out to Mike McMillen, Charlotte Wiggins, Bruce Snively, and Cathy Misko for taking the time to go to Jefferson City ... twice ... to testify on behalf of the MSBA. Thank you to everyone who emailed and called your local legislator to ask them to support either one of the two bills. And a tremendous Thank You and Excellent Job ... well done, goes to Eugene Makovec for never saying never ... hanging in there ... pestering all those that needed pestering ... and heading up this committee to the very, very, very end. Oh yeah, all while planning his wedding which happened last month. Eugene, I've met your new wife and she is officially up for sainthood in my book.

Congratulations to you and your new bride. We are so very proud to have you as a Board member.

Okay, enough said. Go take care of your bees and let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

See, I told you it was going to be short and sweet!

Valerie



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Make plans now!

MSBA Fall Conference
October 16-17
Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia

Call 573-814-5464 to reserve your room. Mention MSBA for discounted rate.

Register online at www.mostatebeekeepers.org
to earn two extra door prize tickets.

Register before October 1st to save on registration fee.



Master beekeeper Michael Bush is our headliner:

Michael is a leading proponent of treatment-free beekeeping. He began his beekeeping career in the mid-1970s with just two hives, and now maintains over 200.

State Senator Jeanie Riddle, sponsor of SB 500, is scheduled to speak at our Friday evening banquet.

This year's contests include:

- Cooking with Honey (cookies, rolls and cakes)
- Honeybee Needlework (crochet, knitting, embroidery etc.)

Any questions?

Contact Clayton Lee

573-864-3172

leeland55@gmail.com

Missouri State Beekeepers Association
2015 Fall Membership Conference
October 16 - 17, 2015
Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia, Missouri

Online conference registration at www.MOStateBeekeepers.org will earn you two (2) **FREE** tickets for prize drawings!!! Online is the place to pay dues, too. Thank you!

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

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Spouse/Partner/Children Attending: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____

Your Local Beekeeping Assn: _____

Registrations submitted on-line or postmarked date – BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2015

Individual (Member):.....\$ 60.00 X _____ = _____

Family (Member):.....\$ 100.00 X _____ = _____

Non Member (sold by individual only):\$ 130.00 X _____ = _____

Registrations submitted on-line or postmarked date – ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2015

Individual Membership:.....\$ 75.00 X _____ = _____

Family Membership:.....\$ 130.00 X _____ = _____

Non Member (sold by individual only):\$ 160.00 X _____ = _____

Conference Meals (all meals include ample choices for vegetarians)

Friday Luncheon - Deli Buffet & Salad Bar (per person):\$ 12.00 X _____ = _____

Friday Banquet - Deli Buffet & Salad Bar (per person):\$ 21.00 X _____ = _____

Saturday Luncheon - Deli Buffet & Salad Bar (per person):\$ 12.00 X _____ = _____

Optional

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

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

If you cannot register online, please make checks payable to the **Missouri State Beekeepers Association** and send it along with this completed registration form to: **Clayton Lee, 90 East Pope Lane, Smithville, Missouri 64089**. If you provide an email, we'll send you an acknowledgement of your registration.

Please contact the **Hilton Garden Inn** at (573) 814-5464 and tell them you are with the MSBA. **Remember the hotel discount cutoff date is September 15, 2015.**



A LEGO apiary?

That's right, an actual bee yard made of LEGOs! Okay, it's not all that complex, but it contains three hives, a couple of beekeepers and some flowers.

It's in the "LEGO Ideas" design stage at this point, and dependent on public support to have a chance at development.

LEGO Ideas is a process by which people submit ideas for new LEGO sets, and then elicit support from the public. If a project receives 10,000 votes, it goes to a LEGO Review board, where designers and marketers decide whether to proceed with the design.

To find out more about the LEGO Apiary, go to <https://ideas.lego.com/projects/92829>



Bee Informed Partnership issues National Loss Survey Results

Results are mixed, with winter losses down but summer losses up

Note: This is a preliminary analysis. Sample sizes and estimates are likely to change. A more detailed final report is being prepared for publication in a peer-reviewed journal at a later date.

The Bee Informed Partnership (<http://beeinformed.org>), in collaboration with the Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is releasing preliminary results for the ninth annual national survey of honey bee colony losses. For the 2014/2015 winter season, a preliminary 6,128 beekeepers in the United States provided valid responses. Collectively, these beekeepers managed 398,247 colonies in October 2014, representing about 14.5% of the country's estimated 2.74 million managed honey bee colonies.

About two-thirds of the respondents (67.2%) experienced winter colony loss rates greater than the average self-reported acceptable winter mortality rate of 18.7%. Preliminary results estimate that a total of 23.1% of the colonies managed in the United States were lost over the 2014/2015 winter. This would represent a decrease in losses of 0.6% compared to the previous 2013/2014 winter, which had reported a total loss estimated at 23.7%. This is the second year in a row the reported colony loss rate was notably lower than the 9-year average total loss of 28.7%.*

Beekeepers do not only lose colonies in the winter but also throughout the summer, sometimes at significant levels. To quantify this claim of non-winter colony mortality of surveyed beekeepers, we have included summer and annual colony losses since 2010/2011. In the summer of 2014 (April – October), colony losses surpassed winter losses at 27.4% (total summer loss). This compares to summer losses of 19.8% in 2013. Importantly, commercial beekeepers appear to consistently lose greater numbers of colonies over the summer months than over the winter months, whereas the opposite seems true for smaller-scale beekeepers. Responding beekeepers reported losing 42.1% of the total number of colonies managed over the last year (total annual loss, between April 2014 and April 2015). This represents the second highest annual loss recorded to date.

As in previous years, colony losses were not consistent across the country, with annual losses exceeding 60% in several states, while Hawaii reported the lowest total annual colony loss of ~14%.

This survey was conducted by the Bee Informed Partnership, which receives a majority of its funding from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA (award number: 2011-67007-20017).

* Previous survey results found a total colony loss in the winters of 24% in the winter of 2013/2014, 30% in 2012/2013, 22% in 2011/2012, 30% in 2010/2011, 32% in 2009/2010, 29% in 2008/2009, 36% in 2007/2008, and 32% in 2006/2007 (see reference list).

•Nathalie Steinhauer¹, Karen Rennich¹, Kathleen Lee², Jeffery Pettis³, David R. Tarpy⁴, Juliana Rangel⁵, Dewey Caron⁶, Ramesh Sagili⁶, John A. Skinner⁷, Michael E. Wilson⁷, James T. Wilkes⁸, Keith S. Delaplane⁹, Robyn Rose¹⁰, Dennis vanEngelsdorp¹

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⁸ Department of Computer Science, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608

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¹⁰ United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Riverdale, MD

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Governor has until mid-July to sign Honey Bill

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questions from his colleagues.

We were all pleasantly surprised by the nature of the questions and comments that ensued. “Isn’t honey like, the perfect food?” asked one member. Another suggested that honey might be included in the aforementioned “farm-to-table” program, which would steer locally-grown foods to schools and other state institutions. Someone else commented that bees are in trouble enough these days and beekeepers need all the help they can get.

Mr. Hurst then asked if anyone was there to speak in favor of the bill. I was the first to testify, and provided background. I told the story of my honey being pulled from store shelves due to a processed foods law that I didn’t even know existed, and how I learned of other beekeepers around the state suffering the same fate. This, I argued, was due to a law designed for jams and jellies - which, unlike honey, are in fact processed foods and subject to bacterial growth and spoilage if not properly handled. I finished by quoting from a letter from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, who admitted that they have no record of food-borne illness ever being linked to honey in Missouri.

Mike McMillen was next, and talked about the various trials and tribulations that bees and beekeepers face in this day and age, and how difficult it is to keep our heads above water as it is, without the government making things more difficult.

Charlotte Wiggins told them about the enormous contribution that beekeepers make to Missouri’s Ag economy.

Bruce Snavelly gave a rundown of the regulations for a commercial kitchen and how it cost one beekeeper in his area over forty thousand dollars to comply.

And **Cathy Misko** detailed the wide-ranging health benefits of honey – especially local honey – and what an important role it plays in our urban and suburban economy.

The questions at that stage were few, and all supportive. But what we had neglected in our testimony was a defense of the labeling change in the bill. We’d been told to keep our comments brief, and we felt that the commercial kitchen was the big attention-getter. Plus, in my opinion, convincing them of the inherent safety of honey would obviate the need for any sort of label warning on un-inspected honey.

But to our surprise, along came a woman from a local health association speaking in opposition to the bill, and what was her concern? The label change! It’s one thing, she said, for someone to buy honey from the beekeeper in person, where they can ask him questions and judge him by his appearance. But, she added, someone buying food in a store makes an assumption that the product has been inspected by some government agency, and they need to be told if that’s not the case.

Rep. Linda Black asked why honey should be singled out, when fresh fruits and vegetables do not require such a label. But when someone asked Mr. Houghton about the label language, he was at a complete loss to explain it!

So I was sitting there like that nerdy kid in grade school, my hand half-raised, signaling, “Me, me, call on me!” And Mike was next to me, trying to point me out to Rep. Hurst. We finally got the attention of the Chairman’s secretary, who nudged Mr. Hurst, who in turn told me I’d have an opportunity for further “informational testimony”.

Now I have to tell you, when I sat up there the first time, I was like a deer in the headlights. I was the first one to speak, and, well, there were a lot of people looking at me. I could feel my ears turning red, and that just made me more self-conscious.

But when I got back up there, it was different. I was actually a little riled up, because this woman had basically parroted the line that I’d gotten from the Health Department last year. So I told them, look, I’ve gotten lots of questions about my honey over the years, both from direct buyers and via my retailers. But they’ve never been about where or how I bottle my product. It’s always things like: “Where are your bees located?” (i.e., “How local is this honey?”); “Why is this honey a different color than what I bought last fall?”; “Do you have this in a gallon size?”; or my personal favorite, “Why does this honey taste so much better than what I buy at the supermarket?”

And while I was up there, I also stressed that the existing law put Missouri beekeepers at a disadvantage vis-a-vis out-of-state and even foreign beekeepers who could sell their honey in the same stores without having to follow those regulations. That really resonated with the legislators, and led to questions about foreign honey, especially the Chinese honey that ran into trouble due to chemical residues and adulteration issues. I talked about how banned Chinese honey now comes across the border by being transshipped from places like Vietnam, Myanmar and other countries that don’t produce those kinds of quantities. I told them that if someone wants to adulterate honey, they can do so just as easily in a commercial kitchen, and suggested that if THAT is the Health Department’s concern, perhaps their funds would be better spent on spot-checking imported honey than on pestering Missouri beekeepers who have no such history.

Evidently the Committee members were convinced, as they would later vote unanimously “Do Pass” in sending the bill to the House floor. (A second House committee, the oversight Select Committee on Agriculture, would give its unanimous approval on April 8 and send it to the full House.)

The next day we were back for the rescheduled Senate hearing, this time with the help of Senator Riddle. Bruce could not make it, so I touched on his testimony in my statement. We also covered the labeling issue. No one stood in opposition that day, even though we learned later that a health department representative was in the room.

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Senate Honey Bill sponsor to speak at MSBA Fall Conference

continued from page 7

This committee was as friendly as the previous day's had been, and they also gave the bill a unanimous "Do Pass".

The House passed HB 1093 on April 20, by a vote of 150-2. The Senate passed SB 500 a day later 31-2. Since the two bills were identical, most of us thought that would be the end of it.

Not so fast, said Mike McMillen, who'd spent several years working as a lobbyist in Jefferson City. (Mike was an invaluable source of information and advice throughout this process.) These were technically separate bills, so they'd only reached the halfway point. One of them would need to make it back through committee and be passed by the opposite house to become law.

So on April 28, Mike and I were back at the Capitol to reiterate our support of SB 500 to the House Ag Policy Committee. I also thanked them for their expedited hearing, and stressed to them the importance of passing the bill this year. Since Health and Senior Services had only recently begun their crackdown on beekeepers, I said, things would only get worse for us if we needed to wait till the 2016 session to change the law. Again the Committee's comments were all positive. They voted "Do Pass" the same day and sent it to the Select Committee.

Mike returned the next day with Cathy Misko to support the House bill in the Senate committee, which voted "Do Pass" on the same day to move it to the full Senate.

Then things got interesting. It was a week before the House Select Committee took up SB 500, and rather than simply sign off again, they loaded it with a package of unrelated agriculture amendments – covering everything from ethanol to the processing of meat from captive deer. What that meant was that, even if this new version of the bill were to pass on the floor, it would then have to go back to the Senate for reconciliation, and with just 10 days to go in the session, that did not seem possible. I emailed Jay Houghton's office the next day, asking if there was any way he could bring this bill to the floor, strip the amendments and pass it in its original form. His aide's response: Work on the Senate side to get HB 1093 passed.

But with a week to go in the session, the Senate shut down. The Republican majority's top remaining priority was Right-to-Work legislation, and the Democrats' top priority was stopping it. Democrats announced that they would filibuster the bill, and threatened that if Republicans used Senate rules to cut off debate and pass it, they would filibuster any and all other bills for the remainder of the session.

Unfortunately both parties were as good as their word. The Senate leader brought up his Right-to-Work bill first thing Tuesday, Democrats filibustered for nine hours, and the Republicans then forced a vote. Democrats announced an end

I emailed Jay Houghton's office, asking if there was any way he could bring this bill to the floor, strip the amendments and pass it in its original form. His aide's response: Work on the Senate side to get HB 1093 passed.

But with a week to go in the session, the Senate shut down. The Senate leader brought up his Right-to-Work bill, and Democrats announced an end to legislating for the year.

But things would get even worse. Wednesday morning's paper broke a story about the House Speaker's dalliance with a 19-year-old intern. The Speaker "went into hiding", as one lawmaker put it, and placed the House into recess.

to legislating for the year, and did not relent until Friday, when both sides agreed to reconvene, pass an emergency Medicare funding bill, and then adjourn for the year.

The Senate quagmire left us with just one option. On Tuesday night I sent an email to about 1500 Missouri beekeepers, a post to the MSBA Facebook page, and a request to our Regional Directors that they contact the local clubs in their regions. I suggested that people with Democratic Senators call or email to ask them to break the filibuster. But more importantly, I asked everyone to contact their Representatives and ask that they work to bring up SB 500, strip the extraneous amendments and pass it in its original form.

But things would get even worse. Wednesday morning's paper broke a story about the House Speaker's dalliance with a 19-year-old intern. The Speaker "went into hiding", as one lawmaker put it, and placed the House into recess. He emerged Thursday afternoon to resign, and on Friday afternoon a newly-elected Speaker decided to get some things done.

Evidently the state's beekeepers had come through with their calls and emails. With hundreds of bills jockeying for action, SB 500 was the 14th of just 32 passed during the session's final flurry. Even then, it was the subject of a lengthy debate, though not on its merits.

Rep. Houghton, who we later learned had himself been responsible for one of the Select Committee's amendments, argued that their removal, and subsequent passage of a clean bill, would be "the right thing to do" for Missouri's beekeepers. But there was grumbling by lawmakers with a stake in other amendments, with Rep. Kevin Engler of Farmington complaining that the House was caving in and "passing the Senate's agenda" over its own.

Wait a minute, replied Deb Lavender of Kirkwood. "Did we not hear it first in committee as a House bill?" She recalled that initial hearing, saying, "I believe it was the longest and most entertaining testimony that we have had in committee this year. We were all excited, we all had questions, we had great people testifying in favor of the bill."

Tracy McCreery of Creve Coeur concurred. "We spent hours and hours talking to beekeepers from around the state," she said, adding, "For anyone who hasn't been living under a rock the past few years ... we are dependent on honeybees to help feed the world." Further, she said, "I think people are not going to want to start a small business, even if it's a home-based business, if they think they're going to be burdened by over-regulations, and have the threat of some government inspector breathing down their neck."

The final vote of 141-5 came with just three hours to go in the session. Governor Jay Nixon received it on May 27, and is expected to sign it. It is scheduled to take effect August 28.

Senator Jeanie Riddle has agreed to speak at the MSBA's Fall Conference, likely at Friday's banquet.



Senate Bill 500 – Pertinent Facts

The full text of Senate Bill 500 can be seen at <http://www.senate.mo.gov/15info/pdf-bill/tat/SB500.pdf>

What follows is a summary of its changes to current law:

Removes commercial kitchen requirement for indirect sales:

- Under existing law, anyone selling honey through a third party needs to “process” or “manufacture” that honey in an “inspected kitchen”. As enforced, this meant that all steps from extraction to final bottling had to be conducted in a full commercial kitchen. Different counties enforced different versions of this kitchen, but it typically included four sinks, washable walls and a floor drain, as well as its own connected bathroom and separate plumbing/septic system separate from that of one’s living quarters. Third-party sales were defined to include any situation where the seller did not receive the product directly with the end user – including internet sales and even the taking of an order at a show for later shipment.
- SB 500 removes the commercial kitchen requirement for anyone doing less than \$50,000 in gross honey sales per year.

Removes label warning for direct sales:

- Existing law exempts from the commercial kitchen requirement any honey sold direct to consumer. However, to qualify for this exemption, the product label must include the statement, “This product has not been inspected by the Department of Health and Senior Services.” When selling at a farmers’ market, craft show or any similar venue, that statement must also appear on a prominently displayed placard.
 - SB 500 removes the warning label and placard requirements.

Raises exemption limit

- Under current law, anyone doing more than \$30,000 in gross annual sales must use an inspected kitchen for both direct and indirect sales.
 - SB 500 raises that limit to \$50,000.

Changes definitions

- Current law refers to the extraction and bottling of honey as “processing” and/or “manufacturing”.
 - SB 500 changes these references to “harvesting” and “bottling”. This change was made to remove the Health Department’s classification of honey as a “processed food”. It is classified elsewhere in Missouri law as an agricultural commodity.

Local Beekeeping Associations in Missouri

- 1 Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks**
4th Tuesday of each month, 6-9 p.m.
CH Chub O'Reilly Cancer Center, 2055 South Fremont,
Springfield MO 65804
Jeffrey Maddox, President maddox65804@yahoo.com
www.ozarksbeekeepers.org
- 2 Boone Regional Beekeepers Association**
3rd Sunday of month, 3:00 p.m., Columbia Insurance
Group, 2102 Whitegate Dr. (back door), Columbia
President Jim Duever, 573-254-3373 www.boonebees.org
- 3 Busy Bee Club**
4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Cedar County
Health Center, Owens Mill Road, Stockton
Neal Lee 417-276-3090, Neil Brunner 314-276-4252
- 4 Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association**
2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., location
changes. Bob Sears, President 314-479-9517
www.easternmobeekeepers.com
- 5 Golden Valley Beekeepers**
2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Golden Corral, Clinton MO. Tom McCormick, President
tomm@goldenvalleybeekeepers.com
www.goldenvalleybeekeepers.com
- 6 Jackson Area Beekeepers**
4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
First Presb. of Jackson, 206 E. Washington
Contact Grant Gillard, gillard5@charter.net, 573-243-6568
- 7 Jefferson County Beekeepers Association**
2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Hwy B & 21
Jefferson County Extension Center, Hillsboro
Contact Marvin Hook 636-274-1759
- 8 Joplin Area Beekeepers Association**
Last Tue. of each month, 7 pm, SM Bank Community
Building (7th and Duquesne Rd), Joplin
Contact Dale Foley 417-850-0285
- 9 Mid Missouri Beekeepers**
3rd Sunday, 2 pm, Old Train Depot, St. James.
Contact Don Moore, dmoore2@centurytel.net
573-265-8706
- 10 Midwestern Beekeepers Association**
Most meetings: Fellowship Hall at Graceway, 5460 Blue
Ridge Cutoff, Kansas City, MO 64133
Visit midwesternbeekeepers.org for calendar
Pres. Cathy Misko, 660-656-3485 cathymisko@earthlink.net
- 11 Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association**
Last Tuesday of Month in Quincy, IL
Contact Bernie Andrew 217-938-4975
- 12 Missouri Valley Beekeepers Association**
3rd Monday, 7pm, Union, location varies
President Calvin Brandt cvbrandt@landolakes.com
- 13 Parkland Beekeepers**
3rd Tuesday of month, 7pm, North College Center,
Mineral Area College, Park Hills. Pres. Gregg Hitchings
573-880-2899 PBA_President@mineralarea.edu
- 14 Pomme de Terre Beekeepers**
2nd Thursday 7 pm, Missouri Extension Office, Hermitage
Contact Rebekah Huddleston Rebekah_421@yahoo.com
- 15 SEMO Honey Producers**
2nd Thursday of month, Church of Christ, Poplar Bluff
Contact Cory Stevens 573-225-6935
wells.ernie@gmail.com
- 16 South Central Missouri Beekeepers Association**
1st Friday of month, Howell Electric Coop, West Plains
Monty Wiens, President 417 257-3994
- 17 Southern MO Beekeepers of Monett "MOBees")**
3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
United Methodist Church, Hwy 37 NW of Monett
Kevin Young, President 417-847-5464
- 18 Southwest Missouri Beekeepers Assn. of Neosho**
1st Tuesday of month, Neosho High School FFA Bldg
Contact Thelma Ross 417-472-3504
rtross@jscomm.net
- 19 Three Rivers Beekeepers**
3rd Monday, 7pm, University of Missouri Extension,
260 Brown Rd, St. Peters, info@threeriversbeekeepers.com
President Eugene Makovec 314-703-7650
- 20 Northwest Missouri Bee Busters**
2nd Monday of month, location varies
nwmobeebusters.blogspot.com
beebusters2012@gmail.com
Gerald Auffert, President 660-944-2535
- 21 Lake of the Ozarks Beekeepers**
3rd Saturday of month, 1:00 p.m.
Square Deals Ice Cream Shop, Versailles
Contact Garrett Blackwell 573-374-7402
- 22 Northeast Missouri Beekeepers Association**
1st Friday of month, 7 pm, Clark County Courthouse,
Lower level, Kahoka (location may vary)
(3 miles south of Wayland) Contact Randy Ewart
573-248-5561 rewart@centurytel.net
- 23 Gasconade Region Beekeepers**
2nd Tuesday 7:00, First State Comm. Bank, Owensville
Pres. Chris Bilbrey 573-692-0698 twaaace01@fidnet.com
gasconaderegionbeekeepers@hotmail.com
- 24 St. Louis Beekeepers**
4th Tuesday 6:30, Schlafly Bottleworks
contact@saintlouisbeekeepers.com
www.saintlouisbeekeepers.com
- 25 Western Missouri Beekeepers**
2nd Tuesday 6:30, Moor-View Community Room, Nevada
Caroline Phillips, President 417-321-3587
bcphillips81@gmail.com
- 26 Meramec Valley Beekeepers**
First Sunday 2 pm, Peace Lutheran Church in Sullivan
Contact Sam Elia 573-732-5597 samnoral@gmail.com, or
Laurie Rose at laurierose1219@yahoo.com
- 27 Quad County Beekeepers**
1st Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Missouri Extension Office, Troy
Contact Fred Meder (573) 760-2574
quadcountybeekeepers.com
- 28 North Central MO Beekeepers Association**
1st Monday, Area Career Center, Macon, 7:00 pm
Contact Bill George (660) 646-3354, www.ncmobees.org
- 29 Bees Alive**
(Springfield area) www.beesaliveclub.com
1st Thursday, 7pm, Empire Bank, Highlandville
Dan Barton, dannyohboy@hotmail.com
- 30 Wright County Beekeepers**
2nd Thursday, Laclede Electric building, Hartville, 7 pm
Rick Bledsoe, Contact 417-741-7466
wrightcountybeekeepers@gmail.com

(continued next page)

Local Beekeeping Associations in Missouri

(continued from previous page)

31 Rolla Bee Club

4th Sunday 2pm, Brownwood Estates Clubhouse, 1341 California, Rolla
Contact David Draker (573) 578-0561
rollabees@gmail.com www.rollabeeclub.com

32 Swarm Chasers

% MO Dept. of Conservation,
701 McCarthy Dr., St. Joseph
Contact Shannon Holcomb 816-261-8647
holcomb_shannon@yahoo.com

33 EZ Beekeeping

3rd Sunday, 2 pm, Peace Lutheran Church in Sullivan
No dues, focus on Horizontal Hives. Contact Jim Roe 636-357-7658 or email jim.roe@aseonline.org. This group has an open group on Yahoo to exchange information. (Yahoo account needed.)

34 Mark Twain Beekeepers

3rd Monday, 6-8 p.m. No dues. February meeting at Gregg Tivnan's workshop near Bunker; call for other months. Contacts: Terry Phelps 573-729-3333 Gregg Tivnan (573) 689-2254 or greggtivnan@yahoo.com

See our interactive club map on the website at: <http://batchgeo.com/map/e64a9d35b439c5309794fbae8516f333>

We need you at the Fair! - August 13-23 in Sedalia

continued from page 1

Admission at the gate: \$10; age 60+, \$7; ages 6-12, \$2; 5 and under free. Tickets can be purchased in advance for a discount. See www.mostatefair.com for schedules and details.

Booth volunteers needed:

Please consider volunteering at our MSBA Booth this year. The booth is in the air-conditioned AG Building on the southeast side of the fairgrounds. (A fairgrounds map is available at <http://www.mostatefair.com/plan/hours-map-directions/>.) If you sign up to help (four hours minimum), your FREE admission ticket can be picked up at the information shed (formerly the red caboose) located on Hwy 65 (outside the fairgrounds), just North of Gate #11. Go onto the fairgrounds at this entrance and park your vehicle.

We need five to six people in the booth each day - 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. As always, we encourage local clubs to sign up to run the booth for a day, sporting their own club logo apparel if desired.

Call Dean Sanders (816-456-4683) or Wanda Johnston (816-392-4960) and sign up for as many hours/days as you can. Arrangement for overnight accommodations nearby is available for you to reserve dates of your choice.

Jobs in the booth include answering questions at our observation hive, selling honey, ice cream, honey sticks and other honey related by-products, plus educating the public about honeybees. If you've never worked at or been to the Fair, try it for a day. You get to meet and work with other beekeepers, and Dean and Wanda or other experienced workers will be there to help answer any of your questions. See you at the Fair!

Enter your honey and other products:

Even if you are unable to help out at our booth, you can still participate in the Honey Competition. The list of products to enter includes cut comb, bulk comb, light and dark extracted honey, sealed honey frames, candied (creamed) honey, beeswax blocks, art and candles, and "the queen & her bees" (observation hive). Judging of honey entries will include degree of density, moisture content, free from crystals, clarity, cleanliness of containers, flavor & aroma, color, appearance of containers, and uniformity of volume. The Score Sheet for judging items and more specific guidelines plus an entry form can be found on the State Fair web site at <http://www.mostatefair.com/competitions/how-to-enter-premium-guide/>. Under "Agriculture and Home Economics" you will find "Agriculture Rules and Classes" (with Apiculture beginning on page 2) and the "Agriculture Entry Blank".

Start planning now and decide what to enter. Get your jars selected (preferably glass, but not a requirement) and get your creamed honey started by early July. Even if you are just beginning your beekeeping adventure, please consider entering your honey products for judging. You get a score sheet for each item you enter and it's a great way to see how you're doing in preparing your honey for sale or even to give to your friends and neighbors.

If you are unable to deliver your entries to Sedalia yourself, maybe your local club can help find someone. Let's fill up the showcase this year and let the public see our beautiful bounty from all over Missouri.

Note: We will match your winnings if you are a member of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association.

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Honey Queen report by Erin Mullins

Happy June everyone!! I can't believe it is June already! Most of April and May have been very rainy for us. We have had only a handful of sunny days.

My one hive is so far doing great. I have a nuc on its way which I'm excited to add to my apiary. My honey queen events have slowed down since the beginning of the year.

I was lucky enough to be in the role of a student at Cory Stevens' Queen rearing program which was sponsored by the Midwestern Beekeepers Association. I didn't know how exciting the world of queen rearing could be, but with Cory's class I am all excited to try my hand at raising queens!! We were lucky enough to spend part of the day outside trying our hands at grafting larvae. Cory showed us the size we needed and we grabbed a tool and gave it our best try. I definitely encourage anyone who loves to learn and is willing to try something new in beekeeping to take a queen rearing course.

For the month of June I have two events planned so far. First is the NEKBA FUNDAY in Lawrence Kansas on June 6th. I enjoyed it last year and look forward to hearing from this year's presenters. I also hope I have another chance to dip my hand into a swarm like Lauren and I did last year!

My second June event is at the Powell Gardens Pollinator event on June 20th outside of Kansas City. At both events I will be doing a cooking demonstration and at FUNDAY I will also get to do a children's presentation.

On July 30th I will be helping the NEKBA again at their booth at the Leavenworth County fair in Kansas.

I hope to see some of you at these events! Don't hesitate to say Hi!

Erin



Queen Erin



Queen Erin practices grafting larvae at Midwestern's queen rearing class.

Directory of Officers

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- State Fair Chairman: Dean Sanders** 816-456-4683 cell
37804 Old Pink Hill Road, Oak Grove MO 64075

Missouri State Beekeepers Association
PO Box 7514 Columbia, Missouri 65205
www.mostatebeekeepers.org



A penny for your thoughts: This quaint collectible illustrates for us two elements of a bygone era, the bee skep and the penny postcard. The message itself - a variation of "Why don't you write?" - still resonates today.

- from the collection of Victor Imgarten

This newsletter is published six times per year, in even months. Submissions are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

The email edition is in color, and contains hyperlinks and bonus back-page material, while the print version is in black-and-white. If you are a member currently receiving the printed newsletter and you wish to upgrade, just send an email to editor@mostatebeekeepers.org with "email newsletter" in the subject line. I'll reply with confirmation, and add you to my list.

Advertising rates are as follows:

Business card size	\$15.00	Half page	\$50.00
Quarter page	\$35.00	Full page	\$100.00

Classified Ads: Advertise one to three beekeeping-related items in a one-line ad at no charge. This service is for non-commercial MSBA members only, and is limited to one ad per item per calendar year.

Honey Trading Post: This is a free service to members wishing to buy or sell honey on a wholesale basis. Just email or call the editor with contact information and whether you are buying or selling. Pricing is between the interested parties.