



Missouri State Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075

www.mostatebeekeepers.org

May 2007

Eugene Makovec

Editor

Beekeepers Swarm State Capitol

Close to 100 beekeepers descended on the Capitol Plaza Hotel in downtown Jefferson City in March for the annual Spring Meeting of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association.

The Missouri State Capitol building took on the characteristics of a giant bee skep on the morning of Friday, March 16, as scores of beekeepers arrived for a tour of the premises. In addition to the standard Capitol tour given to tourists, staffers of Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Dan Clemens arranged for the adventurous among us to climb to the top of the dome, step outside and walk around the base of the cupola upon which stands Ceres, the Roman goddess of grain. Dr. Keith Delaplane, our main speaker for the meeting that followed, is pictured below right, looking out from the dome with the Missouri River in the background.

Following lunch on Friday, the meeting officially opened and we heard from our primary speaker, **Dr. Keith Delaplane**, an entomologist at the University of Georgia. Dr. Delaplane lectured on the value and methods of Integrated Pest Management for control of varroa mites. Among other things, he shared results of a study showing that colonies hived with screened bottom boards experienced higher honey production and lower queen replacement rates over a two-year period than both chemically treated colonies and control colonies.

Later, Dr. Delaplane spoke about the small hive beetle, and shared the following interesting tidbit:

A type of yeast that lives on the body of the hive beetle interacts with stored pollen in the hive to create a volatile odor, which attracts other beetles to the hive. This could explain why a particular hive may have a high load of beetles, while an adjacent hive has virtually none.

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From top left: 1) Attendees gather for outdoor beekeeping demonstrations in Jefferson City Park. 2) Members tour the Capitol building. 3) Chris Gibbons demonstrates his method for creating Spring splits. 4) Apitherapist Revah Carlson demonstrates sting technique on volunteer Caylor Kerry as Bob Wade holds the microphone. 5) 2007 Honey Queen Lori Guthals talks with her sister Cheri. 6) Dr. Keith Delaplane at the top of the Capitol Dome. (All photos by Eugene Makovec, pages 7 & 12.)



MSBA

MSBA



From the President

by Ken Norman

Queens and Disappearing bees

It is tax day, April 15, 2007, except this year of course, my son Jakob and I am trying to graft some queen cells so I can have some extra queens in mid-May. I am using some of Grant Gillard's thoughts (from the recent Spring Meeting) on selecting queens for grafting. I am grafting from the queen that has the most bees flying the quickest in the morning, and a gentle and solid brood pattern.

I have been thinking a lot about queens because I haven't received the queens I ordered back in December for April 3, 2007. A one-week delay is my fault because I told them I could wait because of the sudden cold we experienced the first of April, which would wipe out all the apple and peach blossoms in the Marionville area. The rest of the wait I will attribute to the queen breeder in Georgia.

I ordered some more queens out of northern California to be here April 25, and after talking with Sheryl Pendell of Pendell Apiaries of northern California I have decided that in the future I will order from several breeders from different parts of the country, so that no matter what the weather in one area or the demand from other beekeepers, I will have a portion of my queens coming in on the first of April -- I hope.

I have located two books out of print on queen rearing by Jay Smith that have been placed on the Internet by Bush Farms. They are the following:

<http://www.bushfarms.com/beesqueenrearingssimplified.htm>

I would read this one first. It helped me to understand some of the timing of queen rearing that I was deficient in.

<http://www.bushfarms.com/beesbetterqueens.htm>

This one perfects some of his techniques in queen rearing.

I appreciate Michael Bush of Bush Farms for placing these books on the web and developing a great information website for beekeepers. Even if you are not into queen breeding, he has other great information on beekeeping on the web at:

<http://www.bushfarms.com/bees.htm>

One other site on the web that you should not be without if you are raising queens is the following:

<http://queencalendar.markfarm.com/>

This website takes the guesswork out of queen rearing by calculating important times like when to remove the queen cell or when the virgin queen in the nucleus has been bred. Depending on when you want your queens, this program will give you the dates to begin the grafting or when you give your JZ or BZ cage to the breeder queen.

I will try to attend as many of the local beekeeping meetings as possible throughout Missouri to speak about the Missouri State Beekeepers Association in the coming year. So far I have attended meetings in Monett, Carthage and, of course, Springfield. Most of these associations are bringing in new members by having beginning beekeeping classes.

The first line of offense in making and keeping beekeepers will be the holding of classes on beekeeping at the local level. So if your local beekeeping association doesn't have beginning beekeeping classes, work with your local officers to encourage the classes. If there is a need for literature and speakers for your local, those can be developed at the spring and fall meetings of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association; that is one more aspect of being an MSBA member.

Disappearing bees have been in the news lately, and some of the possible causes were addressed at the spring meeting with Keith Delaplane. So I will add another cause, which comes from some scientists from England. It is your cell phone, and this can be read at:

<http://news.independent.co.uk/environment/wildlife/article2449968.ece>

I wish to thank all those who helped with the spring meeting in Jefferson City; I appreciate all those who helped to run a smooth meeting with no surprises.

The executive board meeting will be June 23, 2007 at Ryan's Restaurant in Columbia at 9:00 am. All officers and representatives from locals are invited to attend.

Ken Norman



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NHB Adds Funding for Research of Colony Collapse Disorder

The National Honey Board (NHB) has approved \$100,000 in additional funding for research on the phenomenon recently termed

Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), bringing NHB's total funding to date for CCD research to \$158,000.

The funding has been awarded to a CCD Working Group composed of university faculty researchers, state regulatory officials, cooperative extension educators and industry representatives. In January, NHB approved an emergency funding request for \$13,000 for the group. In addition, NHB approved \$45,000 for a CCD research project as part of its 2007 production research funding.

In late 2006, some beekeepers began reporting large losses in honey bee colonies. Although bee experts have identified several possible causes, a prevailing theory has yet to emerge.

The CCD group and Bee Alert Technology are asking beekeepers' assistance in reporting instances of honey bee CCD. Beekeepers can assist with this effort by participating in the National Bee Loss Survey at www.beesurvey.com.

For more information about CCD and the CCD Working Group, visit <http://maarec.cas.psu.edu/index.html>.

BeeMovie: Your Input Is Needed for this Unique Marketing Opportunity!

The honey industry will have an exciting and unprecedented marketing opportunity this fall when the animated "Bee Movie" is scheduled to play in movie theaters throughout the United States. "Bee Movie" is a production of DreamWorks, which has produced such popular animated movies as "Shrek" and other films. The movie was written by comedian Jerry Seinfeld, who also provides the voice of the movie's main character, Barry Bee. (For more information about the movie, visit www.beemovie.com or <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0389790/>. The movie is expected to generate positive publicity about beekeeping and highlight the important role bee pollination plays in plant production.

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NHB conducts research, advertising and promotion programs to help maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets for honey. These programs are funded by an assessment of one cent per pound on domestic and imported honey.

Hivastan Gets Section 18 Approval New Treatment for Varroa Mites

The following is a press release from Central Life Sciences.

Schaumburg, IL, March 19, 2007 -- The Environmental Protection Agency has granted Section 18 clearance for Hivastan, a powerful new weapon to help beekeepers protect their bees against Varroa mites, and in the process, become more profitable.

"Because Hivastan's active ingredient is not used elsewhere for Varroa mites, it eliminates some of the resistance issues that have plagued other treatments," explains Mark Taylor, business manager for Central Life Sciences. "Once it's applied, there's no need to go back to the hive to remove a used-up strip, so it's less labor intensive."

Hivastan contains fenpyroximate, a highly effective miticide, that has been formulated into a "patty" delivery system. During testing with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Hivastan provided up to six weeks of no-mess, easy-to-use Varroa control. When used as directed, bees transfer the active ingredient throughout the colony while they work to remove the product (which they perceive as a foreign substance) from the hive.

To provide maximum control, Central Life Sciences recommends treating all infested bee colonies with Hivastan twice a year -- prior to the first honey flow in the spring, and again in the fall after the last honey flow. "Varroa mite control requires integrated pest management," says Taylor. "Current alternatives are proving to be merely temporary solutions, and rotational products like Hivastan are necessary to control Varroa populations."

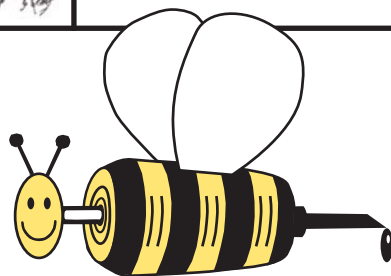
According to the USDA, the number of honeybees and managed beehives is down so much that production of pollinated plants has fallen by about a third in the last two years. Varroa mites, a type of parasite which came to the United States in the 1980s, are considered the primary culprits for wiping out the honey bee population.

Hivastan is available in a 30-patty tub. For more information call 1-800-248-7763.

To find out if Hivastan has been approved in your state, please contact your local Department of Agriculture.

Apiary is part of the Central Life Sciences strategic business unit of Central Garden and Pet. As inventors of insect growth technology more than 30 years ago, Central Life Sciences pioneered bio-rational pest control -- using the insect's chemistry as a means to reduce pest populations.

Editor's Note: As of press time, Hivastan had not yet been approved for use in Missouri. Beekeepers can call the Missouri Department of Agriculture's interim Director's office at 573-526-0948, or via email at Matt.Boatright@mda.mo.gov.



Apitherapy News ...

Propolis Extract Can Replace Chemical Agents in Medications

Monday, April 2, 2007
Dangoule Vanseviclute,
JSC "Valentis" Vilnius,
Lithuania

Presented at: 5th German Apitherapy Congress, March 23-25, 2007, Passau, Germany

Propolis (bee glue) and its preparations are widely used in medical practice, due to their antimicrobial, anesthetic, immunity boosting effect; they act against fungus, suppress inflammation, promote synthesis of antibodies, and facilitate healing of wounds and ulcers.

It was identified that propolis ethanol extract of as little as 0.08 percent concentrations prevents the growth of microorganisms. Preparations containing propolis not only have a wide antimicrobial effect, but, different than with intake of antibiotics, resistant microorganism forms do not develop while using the preparations containing propolis.

From the chemical point of view, propolis is a very complex compound. Propolis contains over 200 different chemical components. These are polyphenoles (chalcones, flavones, flavonones, flavonols), aromatic acids, terpenoids, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, amino acids, sugars, vitamins, minerals, waxes, fatty acids, steroids, etc. Antimicrobial effect of propolis extract is determined by flavonoids, caffeic, cinnamic, benzoic acids contained in the extract, and other chemical compounds, their amount and their synergistic interaction.

JSC "Valentis" began propolis research in 2005. The goal of the work was to produce the purified soft propolis extract, to perform its chemical analysis, to research the antimicrobial effect and to use it as an antimicrobial conservation agent in medication manufacture.

We developed the manufacturing technology of purified propolis extract. Manufacture consisted of several stages. During the course of manufacture, the concentration, temperature, pressure of extractant (ethanol) was being changed.

We manufactured five batches of purified propolis extract. The purified propolis extract is a soft material of dark brown colour of specific odour; it easily and without residue dissolves in 96 percent V/V ethanol. Dry residue of extract is 80 +/- 5%. We did not find waxes in the purified propolis extract. Its oxidation rate did not exceed 10 seconds.

Unpurified propolis extract contained 3 +/- 0.6% of waxes, and its oxidation rate did not exceed 22 seconds. We identified the polyphenolic compounds (precipitate of yellow colour) qualitatively with the solution of lead acetate, flavonoids (precipitate of green colour) with the solution of aluminum trichloride, flavonone pinostrobin was identified by a method of thin-layer chromatography (solvent system: chloroform -- 96 percent V/V ethanol 90:10). We developed the spots in UV light at a 254 nm wavelength, and afterwards with diazotized sulfanilic acid.

Quantitatively we identified the phenolic compounds by a spec-

trophotometric method, by measuring the absorption amount of ethanol solution in the wavelength of 290 nm. We found that the extract should contain 45 +/- 3% (n=5) of phenolic compounds. By making the coloured compound with Folin-Ciocalteu agent and by measuring the absorption rate in the wavelength of 760 nm, we identified the amount of polyphenolic compounds, recalculating them into gallic acid. We found that the extract must contain 0.7 +/- 0.05% (n=5) of polyphenolic compounds recalculated into gallic acid. The specific component in propolis is flavonone pinostrobin. Its amount was identified by a spectrophotometric method, by measuring the absorption amount of ethanol solution in the wavelength of 289 nm. We found that the extract must contain 25 +/- 1% (n=5) pinostrobin.

The amounts of active substances in the unpurified propolis extract differed very insignificantly. We analyzed the antimicrobial activity of purified propolis extract. We used nine reference cultures of microorganisms: *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 25923), *Enterococcus faecalis* (ATCC 29212), *Escherichia coli* (ATCC 25922), *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (ATCC 33499), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (ATCC 27853), *Proteus mirabilis* (ATCC 12459), *Bacillus subtilis* (ATCC 6623), *Bacillus cereus* (ATCC 8035) and *Candida albicans* (ATCC 60193).

We estimated the antimicrobial activity by the dilution method, using the Muller-Hinton broth and 0.9% solution of sodium chloride. We made five dilutions up to 3200 times. We found that after diluting the extract by 400 times (concentration of purified propolis extract is 0.044 mg%), it completely suppresses the growth and proliferation of the above cultures. After diluting the extract by 800 times (concentration of purified propolis extract is 0.011 mg%), it suppresses the growth and proliferation of the above cultures except *Escherichia coli* and *Proteus mirabilis*. After diluting the extract by 1600 times and more, its antimicrobial activity was not manifested anymore.

Due to its strong and wide antimicrobial effect, the propolis extract can be used as an antimicrobial concentration agent in manufacture of different medications, replacing substances of chemical nature.

Currently JSC "Valentis" is in the stage of research of the stability of different syrups, where the purified propolis extract is used as an antimicrobial conservation agent. The research is in progress.

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Eugene Makovec Named 2006 MSBA Beekeeper of the Year

by Scott Moser

Eugene Makovec was named the 2006 Missouri State Beekeeper of the Year at the MSBA's 2007 Spring Meeting, held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. Eugene has been working hard for the Association for years doing a variety of tasks. He has served as Newsletter Editor for the past year and a half, and has done an outstanding job in that capacity. In addition, Eugene has volunteered to help on various projects when needed.

Eugene is a third generation beekeeper and is one of ten kids raised on a dairy farm in Wisconsin. His father was a hobbyist beekeeper who kept up to 12 hives in various locations around the farm. Though thinking they were cool and interesting, Eugene didn't have interest in keeping them himself. It wasn't until almost a decade after leaving home that he decided to take up the hobby.

With some used equipment and advice from his Dad, Eugene got started with a three-pound package. Unfortunately, he managed to kill the queen the first year, but somehow the colony survived the winter. The next year, Eugene added another hive. The number of colonies he now maintains fluctuates from three to five each year.

One of Eugene's goals is to educate the public about honeybees, honey and beekeeping. He has been a member of Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association and the MSBA since 1996. In 1997, he began to give beekeeping talks to elementary school students. According to Eugene, "I find that the best age is about 4th-5th grade, as they are old enough to ask intelligent questions, but young enough to still pay attention."

According to Eugene, his favorite part of beekeeping is catching swarms. He is fascinated by the whole swarming mechanism, though he admits he is largely powerless to prevent his own bees from swarming. He is also impressed by the varied sizes and locations of the swarms, and gets a kick out of the public's widely varied reac-

tions to swarms. He finds a swarm call to be the perfect opportunity to educate people about the honeybee.

As editor, Eugene has implemented many changes to the newsletter and the format. In this day and age of technology, Eugene has brought us an expanded electronic version of the newsletter that the recipients receive sooner, and in color. He still maintains the printed version, but it lacks color and a few other "extras" that the electronic version contains. In addition, he prints the newsletter six times per year so that the membership can keep up to date easier. Due to Eugene's upgrades and changes, the amount of advertising space sold has increased, along with the variety of advertisers.

One challenge that Eugene has taken on is to decrease the number of newsletters that are sent via "snail mail", by increasing the number of people who receive it electronically. When mailed, the postage costs are quite high. In an effort to decrease these costs, Eugene has asked that members with computer access request to receive the newsletter via email. Eugene's persistence and hard work have increased the number of electronic copies that are sent out.

Eugene Makovec is an important member of the MSBA. He has worked hard, and continues to work hard for the members of the Association. He is present at every meeting and volunteers whenever someone is needed. For all of his hard work and dedication, I am proud to name him 2006 Missouri State Beekeeper of the Year. Congratulations, Eugene!



photo by Glenn Davis

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MSBA President Ken Norman presents banquet speaker Matt Boatright, Interim Director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture, with a gift of honey-related products.



Why Are Honey Bees Collapsing?

Marla Spivak and Gary Reuter, Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota

Editor's note: Marla Spivak is one of our nation's foremost bee researchers, and is best known for development of the varroa-resistant Minnesota Hygienic honeybees. She spoke at the MSBA's Spring Meeting in 2006.

March 23, 2007

Honey bee colonies in the U.S. are overworked and under-appreciated. They are the world's most important pollinators of many fruits, vegetables and seed crops, contributing billions of dollars in value to agriculture and our diet. Bees also pollinate wildflowers in our natural ecosystems and much of what we plant in our home gardens. Without honey bees, and other bee pollinators, the produce section in our grocery stores would have about 1/3 fewer fruits and vegetables and it is impossible to estimate how many flowers would not set seed.

Honey bees in the U.S. are maintained by beekeepers, who keep them as a hobby, as a side-line profession, or commercially as a livelihood. All beekeepers harvest honey from their colonies, a wholesome and healthful product. Some harvest other products such as beeswax, pollen, royal jelly, and propolis, which are used to make candles and cosmetics, or serve as nutritional supplements and medicine. Beekeepers keep their colonies of bees in cities, suburbs, and the countryside. Some maintain their colonies in one location year round, and some transport their colonies long distances to follow the blooming plants for honey and to provide pollination service to crops. Some beekeepers propagate "nursery" stock (more bee colonies and queen bees) for sale around the country.

Unfortunately, honey bees are subject to diseases and parasitic mites. The mites were inadvertently introduced into the U.S. in the 1980s. These maladies weaken colonies and can lead to the collapse and death of colonies. Beekeepers are careful to control these pathogens and pests in their colonies, but it has become increasingly difficult because the diseases and mites have developed resistance to some of the treatments. New treatments are currently available which reduce the risk of the pests developing resistance. Fortunately, colonies that die from diseases and mite parasites can be replaced with nursery stock, but overall, the number of bee colonies in the US, and the number of beekeepers, has been drastically reduced over the last 20 years.

In addition to the stress that diseases and mites place on the immune system of bees, our environment is not as friendly to bees as it was in the distant past, which also adds to the overall stress on bees. Urban sprawl and agricultural practices have limited the amount of bee "pasture" (flowers such as clover, alfalfa) available to the bees for their food. The use of pesticides on crops to kill pest insects can have the negative side-effect of killing beneficial insects such as bees. Many pesticide applicators choose pesticides with low residual and low toxicity to bees. But new classes of pesticides, such as those that are systemic (move through plant tissue) may contribute to the stress on bees' immune and detoxification systems because the pesticide may be incorporated into the pollen and nectar. While we know that pesticides can adversely affect bee health, GMO crops have not been shown to directly affect honey bees.

Finally, the beekeeping heroes that transport their colonies across

the nation to pollinate crops for our nation's food supply face extreme difficulties in supplying bees that are strong and healthy enough for pollination. Often, a large number of bee colonies are required to pollinate a particular crop. For example, over 1 million bee colonies are required to pollinate almonds in California during late February and March. Moving such large numbers of colonies into a relatively small area places even more stress on bees. In these conditions, the bees may become nutritionally stressed, they may be at increased risk of pesticide exposure, and definitely are at increased risk of disease and mite transmission among colonies.



Dr. Marla Spivak

It is no wonder bees are suffering. But the biggest question is: Is the collapse of honey bee colonies this year due to yet another factor? Is there a new disease afflicting bees? Are the effects of new classes of pesticides contributing to bee deaths? Why are the bees leaving the colony and not returning? What is the so-called Colony Collapse Disorder? Scientists across the nation are trying to figure this out. At this point, it is unclear why so many bee colonies are dying, and the name Colony Collapse Disorder is a placeholder until its nature can be determined for certain. Most likely, the bees are dying from a number of contributing factors that collectively place an enormous burden on the immune and detoxification systems of bees, eventually "putting them over the edge."

What can you do? Don't panic. Educate yourself.

If you are a beekeeper, make sure your colonies have adequate pollen and nectar stores at all times. Replace old brood combs with new "foundation" to eliminate disease spores, and sample your colonies for mites regularly so you can control them when needed. Enroll in our on-line course, soon to be available, called "Healthy Bees."

If you are not a beekeeper, please appreciate the bees in our environment! Spread the word about the benefits of bees. Support research and extension efforts to promote the health of honey bees. Learn to keep bees yourself!

What is the University of Minnesota doing about the problem?

Dr. Marla Spivak, Gary Reuter and students focus all of their research and extension efforts on keeping bees healthy. They teach several classes to the public, including keeping bees in northern climates, and raising and breeding queen bees. A new on-line course will be available soon that deals exclusively with beekeeping management techniques that can be used to prevent and mitigate disease and mite transmission. The Bee Lab web site has education materials on how to protect bees from pesticides, as well as materials on many general beekeeping practices. The research efforts in Spivak's lab concentrate on breeding bees for "hygienic behavior" -- a mechanism of resistance against bee diseases and parasitic mites. They are also researching ways to bolster the immune system of bees. Please take a few minutes to navigate this web site for more information: www.extension.umn.edu/honeybees/



Continued from page 1

(According to Delaplane, African bees have been known to jettison their pollen stores upon the introduction of small hive beetles.)

On the subject of the latest disaster to befall the industry, Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), Delaplane cautioned that little is known about its causes, but that it is not uncommon for bee populations to

experience large die-offs. Possible culprits include parasitic mite syndrome, viral agents, a new type of nosema and chemical buildup in honeycombs from years of miticide use. For perspective, he noted that new bee tree colonies have only a 25 percent survival rate the first year, while those that make it through that first winter will only last about three and a half years on average.

Next we heard from **Reyah Carlson** of the American Apitherapy Society. Ms. Carlson said she personally has treated over 2000 people with bee sting therapy, for a variety of illnesses ranging from arthritis to multiple sclerosis. Although she said she keeps an EpiPen handy for emergency purposes, she has never had to use it. Moreover, according to Carlson, although some 400,000 people die every year from adverse reactions to perscribed medication, no one in 65 years of apitherapy has ever died due to intentional bee stings.

On the subject of sting allergies, Carlson said a person who is truly allergic to bee stings will die of anaphalactic shock within 20 minutes of being stung. She also stated that she can cure a person of such an allergy within six weeks.



Program Director Sharon Gibbons "puts on the green" for St. Patrick's Day.

Ms. Carlson also gave a brief explanation of the body's mechanism for reacting to bee venom. After a sting, she said, the body releases a chemical called adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) into the bloodstream, after which cortisol is produced to counter inflammation from the reaction. Interestingly, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories like Aleve and ibuprofen acutally increase the body's reaction to a sting, and therefore should not be used in conjunction with sting therapy. In addition, bee stings should never be administered to patients using beta blockers, said Carlson.

The next day, Ms. Carlson gave an apitherapy workshop in which she used live bees to demonstrate sting technique on a volunteer attendee.

Also on Saturday, we heard from **Peggy White**, a nurse specializing in allergies. Ms. White stated that, while 15-25 percent of the population will test positive to a skin test for bee sting allergy, only 0.5-3.0 percent will actually experience a systemic reaction when stung.



Rev. Grant Gillard

Though the weather was only in the 50s, several dozen attendees gathered in a park in sight of the capitol dome for outdoor bee demonstrations. Sessions included woodenware construction, basic hive inspection, requeening and making splits.

On Saturday morning, **Rev. Grant Gillard** shared his PowerPoint presentation on swarm prevention and control. The root cause of swarming, he said, is congestion, which he defined as "the competition for available cell space between incoming nectar and the queen's need to lay eggs and their need to raise brood". This condition is often triggered by a sudden warm spell, which causes an intense nectar flow and gives the queen license to lay more eggs.

The key to prevention, therefore, is to alleviate (or better yet, prevent) the aforementioned congestion, via such means as making splits or replacing frames of honey with wax foundation.

Later that afternoon, **Carol Wade** instructed listeners on the use of beeswax in lotions and creams.



Jann Amos discusses hive colony splits and package bee installation.



Robert Sperandio demonstrates woodenware assembly for beginners.

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Local Club Information

Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks

4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell, Springfield
www.ozarksbeekeepers.org

Boone Regional Beekeepers Association

3rd Sunday of odd months, 1:00 p.m., University
Outreach and Extension Office, Rt. UU, Columbia
Contact Art Gelder 573-474-8837

Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association

1st Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Kirkwood
Community Center, 111 Geyer Rd., Kirkwood
Steve Harris, President 636-946-5520

Gasconade County Beekeepers Association

2nd Monday of month, Progressive Bank of Owensville
Contact Rodney Angell 573-764-2922
bee143@fidnet.com

Jackson Area Beekeepers

4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
First Pres. of Jackson, 206 E. Washington
Contact Grant Gillard 573-243-6568
gillard5@charter.net

Jefferson County Beekeepers Association

2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Hwy B & 21
Jefferson County Extension Center, Hillsboro
Contact Scott Moser 636-285-7295

Joplin Area Beekeepers

Last Thursday of each month, SW MO Bank Annex
(7th and Duquesne)
Contact Howard Thompson 417-781-0587

Mid Missouri Beekeepers

3rd Sunday of each month, Bank of Salem, Salem
Mel Williams, President

Midwestern Beekeepers Association

3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
YMCA, 10301 E. 350 Hwy, Raytown
Bob Justice, President 816-358-3893

Missouri Valley Beekeepers Association

3rd Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Scenic Regional Library, Union
Contact Rodney Angell 573-764-2922
bee143@fidnet.com

Parkland Beekeepers

3rd Tuesday of each month, 108 Harrison, Farmington
Contact Gene Wood 573-431-1436

South Central Missouri Beekeepers Association

May Schmitt, President 417-256-9447

Southern Missouri Beekeepers of Monett ("MOBees")

3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Monett High School VO-AG Building
Robert Sperandio, President 417-235-6959

Southwest Beekeepers Association

1st Tuesday of each month
Neosho High School FFA Building
Contact Herb Spencer 417-472-7743

Is your club missing? Send your information to:
editor@mostatebeekeepers.org

Fall Meeting Preview

Date: November 2-3, 2007

Location: Quality Inn, Hannibal, MO

Speakers: Dewey Caron, Entomologist, University of Delaware
Dann Purvis, Purvis Brothers Goldline Queens

We also plan a side trip to the honey house of **Bernie Andrews**, who spoke at a previous meeting about his method for setting up such an operation.

More to Come!

Congratulations to Art and Vera Gelder of Columbia, who won our email membership drawing for a free 2008 MSBA membership. Our email subscribers save the Association considerable time and money on the printing and mailing of newsletters, and this is our way of saying, "Thanks!" If you're not receiving your newsletter via email, please contact the editor and become eligible for our next drawing, to be held at the Fall meeting. (You need not be present to win.)

Are Cell Phones Killing Your Bees? Don't let this happen to you!

The following was posted on the Bee-L Internet beekeeping forum:

Are cell phones killing our bees? I never let my bees use cell phones. They are social insects and I have found once I let them have cell phones it is impossible to control their use. The charges from time overruns can bankrupt even the most efficient apiary operation.

Once they learn to use them they become dependent: They stop returning to the hive to dance and just phone in the location of their forage discoveries. Furthermore, the increased peer-to-peer communication plays havoc with traditional bee values. "To heck with pheromones!" they say. "Chemical communication is passe compared with digital." As in many societies, the young are the early adopters, spending their time text messaging instead of doing their jobs. In the end we observe a breakdown in hierarchy and, fatally, anti-royalist sentiment.

This, then, is the cause of CCD -- foolish notions of independence among the immature, loss of authority of the elders, breakdown of group cohesion, and collapse of the aristocracy.

by permission of Marc Hoffman, Silver Springs, Maryland

**MSBA Membership Application**

Name _____
Spouse's Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone Number _____ Email* _____

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your newsletter via email.
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ing and mailing costs.

NOTE: If you belong to a local association, please pay your state dues through your local club.

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Make check payable to: Missouri State Beekeepers Association

Mail to: P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075

Magazine Discounts: Discounts are available for MSBA members to two beekeeping magazines. You may use their order forms and mail them yourself to the publishers as shown below:

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Honey Queen Report

Lori Guthals

Hello, Beekeepers!

Well, it sure looks like spring has sprung! Some may be fooled with the occasional 40 degree days here and there, but the calendar says it's here, so get excited! I always enjoy this time of year when the birds begin chirping, the green grass grows and the flowers are in full bloom.

The school year is nearing its end with only a few more weeks of class remaining, and then I will be heading home for the summer. Before I can do that, I must tell you of the semester I have had so far. On March 16 and 17, I was fortunate enough to attend the MSBA Spring Meeting in Jefferson City, Missouri. That was very exciting for me as it was the first time for me to really get to know any of Missouri's Beekeepers. Everyone welcomed me with open arms and made me feel right at home! I had a very good time, especially when they let me MC the raffle drawings. That was a lot of fun! Throughout the meeting I was also able to listen to some really interesting speakers, from a professor on honey bee research to all the different products you can use on your body made from beeswax. I had a very good time all weekend and would like to thank all the beekeepers for their warm welcoming!

As always, I would like to say that, as this year's Honey Queen, I look forward to serving you! If you have a fair, festival, meeting or activity you would like me to attend, please contact Kathy Hogan, Honey Queen Director, so she may relay the message on to me. Her address is located on this page, and on the association website.

Again, I thank you for this amazing opportunity, and I look forward to promoting all aspects of honey throughout the coming year!

Sincerely,

Lori Guthals



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Dr. Richard Houseman
1-87 Agricultural Building, University of Missouri-
Columbia, Columbia, MO 65211

Silent Auction Benefits Queen Program

The silent auction at the Spring Meeting raised \$263.50. The money was put into the Women's Auxiliary bank account and will be used to fund the Queen Program. Thanks to all who bid on these auction items!

For more information about either the Auxiliary or the Queen Program, contact Auxiliary Treasurer Dolores Vivian or Queen Chairperson Cathy Hogan. And don't forget to bring your auction items for the Fall meeting!

Missouri State Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075

www.mostatebeekeepers.org



Magnolia x soulangiana, commonly called tulip or saucer magnolia, blooms profusely in March and early April in Missouri. Blossoms can exceed four inches in diameter, and are commonly pollinated by beetles and other insects.

This popular ornamental grows to 20 feet or more, but is best pruned to within 15 feet, as its branches are prone to storm damage. Due to its early bloom, the flowers are often chilled by cold temperatures, snow or ice. The morning after this photo was taken, this and other trees around the Capitol were adorned with a late-season snow.

This newsletter is published six times per year, on about the first of each odd month. Submissions are due three weeks 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.