Hello MSBA Members, we are working hard preparing for the MSBA booth at the Missouri State Fair. This year’s fair will be August 13-23 in Sedalia, Missouri and we are still looking for volunteers. If you can please let me know before August 1st if you are able to volunteer so I know in plenty of time that shifts are covered or if I need to do any last minute campaigning.

We have had some ask about safety precautions related to Covid-19 and below are some guidelines/practices we will implement during the fair to help protect you and the public:

~PLEASE DO NOT COME IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL OR HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 14 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR SHIFT.~
MSBA President

Letter from our President - Cory Stevens

This year has been quite exciting to say the least. We narrowly averted shutting down the Spring conference at the last minute due to the spreading pandemic. We canceled our second annual field day, and continued to look forward to the remainder of 2020 with a great deal of uncertainty. We recently got word that the State Fair is a go ahead! There will definitely be a honey competition as well if you are interested in entering some of your fine Missouri honey. Erin Mullins is running the show again this year at the MSBA booth. She would greatly appreciate your help as a volunteer if you are available between Aug 13th and Aug 23rd. If you would be able to help us out, please send her an email at emullins93@gmail.com and let her know what days/shifts you could work. Last year was my first year to attend and I really enjoyed it. Working at the booth is great. You get to hang out with the coolest beekeepers in the state, and talk all day about bees. Pretty awesome I’d say. Unfortunately we were told state fair won’t be having concerts or rabbits this year. On the upside, I won’t be bribed into buying one again this year by my kids. Yes, the rabbit from last year is doing well in his life of luxury in case you’re curious.

MSBA has been having monthly zoom meetings where we cover a couple topics and discuss it in detail online. It’s very easy to log and be a part of the discussion. We field questions and comments on the live chat to answer specific questions relevant to the topic of discussion. In the first episode I covered a few queen rearing and breeding topics, and fielded some great questions.

As an equipment supplier, Kyle Day discussed the business side of beekeeping. In the second episode, Erin Mullins covered the state fair honey competition. She discussed in detail how the honey and wax is judged and how to enter the competition. After Erin covered the honey competition, Jeff Mayfield, our Southeast Director, gave us a virtual tour of his extraction facility. He covered the process from pulling honey off of his colonies, holding the supers in the hot room, uncapping, extraction, bottling, and wax handling. It was pretty cool to see an efficient sideliner honey operation, and Jeff has great experience to add. If you haven’t logged on to one live, there’s always next month. You should definitely check them out. We did record the previous episodes and will have them available online if you’d like to catch up. I know Ray Shadow posted some links on Facebook. We will look at posting them via other avenues as well.

MSBA Membership

Membership dues are $10 per individual. To sign up, or to renew a membership, go to the MSBA website at www.mostatebeekeepers.org by utilizing PayPal or your can mail a check with your first and last names, address, telephone number, and email address. We gladly accept batch memberships if given the information on a typewritten list and either a check from the local club’s treasurer or secretary. Notices for renewal are sent out the month preceding your membership expiration.

Thank you for supporting MSBA!

Wanda Johnston
MSBA Membership
401 NW Heady Avenue
Ferrelview, MO 64163
email: bees@kc.rr.com
Missouri State Fair
August 13-23, 2020
- Erin Mullins, MSBA State Fair Coordinator, emullins93@gmail.com

Upon arrival you may have your temperature checked at the front gate or in the booth. We have not heard if they will be checking at the entrances of the fairgrounds yet but am assuming they will.

We will have some masks on hand but encourage you to bring your own if you want to wear a mask.

We have purchased hand sanitizer to have in the booth.

Each night we will wipe down hard surfaces in the booth and back room with sanitizer and we will wash vests worn that day.

Please remember this is voluntary and we will not force anyone to come. If you do not feel comfortable coming and working in the booth we completely understand.

If you would like to volunteer remember that you will receive a free admission ticket into the fair or reimbursement on days that are discounted. This is also a great opportunity to gain volunteer hours if you are enrolled in the Great Plains Master Beekeeping program. You must be enrolled before the fair to earn the volunteer hours.

I am also encouraging you to enter your honey, wax, or observation hive in the contest. This is a great opportunity to show off your bees work and to better your skills as a beekeeper.

The contest items are also important when we have people visit the booth. When people see the honey and wax they ask tons of questions about color, how it’s made, and the importance of both. By having observation hives we are able to show the life cycle of the honeybee and real live bees which always draws people into the booth. Children and adults love finding the queen!!

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions about volunteering or entering your contest items you can email me at emullins93@gmail.com.


They have now opened up the entry forms online to register for the apiculture contests. You can find more information on classes and how to enter at: https://www.mostatefair.com/how-to-enter-premium-guide/agriculture-building/
It’s Time for the 2020 MSBA Awards Nominations!

- Kyle Day, MSBA Interim Secretary, kyle.day.1999@gmail.com

Every year the MSBA Awards Nominations committee sends out the request for nominations of MSBA members for the following awards. Beekeeper of the Year, Junior Beekeeper of the Year, Mentor of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement Award. We need your help by finding top notch beekeepers from across Missouri whose volunteerism benefits Missouri Beekeepers and promotes beekeeping to the public. Nominate beekeepers on our website. https://mostatebeekeepers.org/award-nomination/ then click on each nomination category to fill out the on-line form.

Nominations must identify the MSBA member or association making the nomination, the person being nominated and provide adequate information to demonstrate that the nominee meets the award criteria listed. It is recommended that the description of qualifications be sufficiently extensive to permit an informed comparison against other nominees for the award. Winners will be announced, and the awards presented during the MSBA Fall Conference in October, location (TBD) will be in Warrensburg.

The MSBA Executive Committee will also consider other possible awards this year, such as the MSBA Volunteer of the Year and State Fair Volunteer of the Year. Decisions are made by the Awards Committee and awards will be presented at the Fall Conference.

We ask that you communicate this information to your local clubs and submit nominations. Nominations can be submitted at https://mostatebeekeepers.org/award-nomination/.

Nomination deadline is September 1st.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Kyle Day at kyle.day.1999@gmail.com or (816) 654-5287.

Beekeeper of the Year
- Did the most to promote the art of beekeeping
- Promoted membership in MSBA
- Promoted the MSBA
- Publicized beekeeping and introduced the art of beekeeping to prospective future beekeepers.

Junior Beekeeper of the Year
- 18 years of age or younger
- Enthusiastic Beekeeper
- Promotes beekeeping
- Has been a beekeeper for at least 1 year (second year beekeeper)
- Good peer-group role model

Mentor of the Year
- Actively promoted beekeeping by teaching and guiding new beekeepers in the art of beekeeping
- Is an active MSBA member in good standing
- Nominated by a local association or MSBA member
- Not an MSBA Executive Committee member

Lifetime Achievement Award
- Active MSBA member who has given many years of service in promoting the art of beekeeping, promoting the MSBA, mentoring beginning beekeepers, assisting other beekeepers, and actively volunteering in support of MSBA activities.
- Nominated by Executive Committee, a local association or an MSBA member.
Let’s Welcome Our New Regional Director

Valorie Nichols
Southwest Regional Director

Hello! I’m the new Director for the Southwest region of Missouri. I have contacted all but three of the clubs in our area and have been amazed at the reception and feedback I’ve received.

I started beekeeping in 1994 out of curiosity. My great grandparents had hives when I was just a little kid at five. My mother lived next door to an advanced beekeeper and I must have asked a million questions because she invited me to join a beekeeping club in Springfield where I could get the answers to my many questions. Soon after I was asked to attend the Ozark Empire fair to represent the beekeeping club and answer questions from fair goers. In short time I become the Vice-President.

Next thing I knew my two hives became four, then four became eight and before I knew it, I had forty hives! Since my retirement, my little hobby has been on steroids and I’m now at 100 hives!

Let me know if there are any questions in my area. I want to promote the MSBA to everyone. I hope to see you all in the near future. I look forward to serving the Southwest Missouri beekeepers!

Welcome Back Ray Shadow!

Ray Shadow
West Central Regional Director

I was the West Central Regional Director a few years ago and am now back at it.

I’ve been a beekeeper for approximately 14 years and currently have around 30 hives, though I normally have around 20. I started a local bee club in the small town of Iberia, near Lake of the Ozarks, because I needed help.

I work full-time with the Department of Veterans Affairs as a systems analyst providing computer support. Previously I spent 20 years in the Navy as an Electronics Technician and retired from the Navy Reserve as a Chief. I am also an adjunct professor at Columbia College. I am on the Osage Beach Search and Rescue team which takes up most of my time when not working with the bees.

MSBA Regional Directors

East Central Mike Wagner
Northeast Bob Brammer
Northwest Roger Nichols
Southeast Jeff Mayfield
Southwest Valorie Nichols
West Central Ray Shadow

100% Missouri Honey & Beeswax in Bulk

Honey in 55 gal Drums or 5 gal Buckets

Gilfillan’s Pure Honey
Mound City, Mo
402.812.2546
New Beekeeping Club in Branson, Missouri!

- Sue Chinn

Branson, MO, surrounded by the Ozarks hills, lies 45 miles south of Springfield. Branson, tourist destination that it is, hosts nearly six million visitors each year. Branson, settled quietly in its rural, pastoral hills, is also host to several million tiny creatures known as the honey bee. And, Branson, along with its surrounding towns, livable place that it is, is home to the several individuals and families, known as beekeepers, that steward these tiny creatures. Recently, these Branson beekeepers established the Branson Bee Club.

Why? You may wonder. Why establish a Branson Bee Club when just 45 miles north is the Springfield Bee Club with 70-80 members or at least that many who attend their monthly meetings? The Branson Bee Club was established for a number of reasons, all with the encouragement and blessing of the Springfield club. Valorie Nichols, longtime beekeeper, member of the Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks in Springfield, and the Southwest Regional Director for the MSBA, visiting with others about a bee club in the Branson area, was one of the first to encourage the idea of a club that would better fit those living south of Springfield.

When the twelve folks who journeyed to the first organized Branson Bee Club were asked why they were interested in this particular club, the top two reasons were convenience and time. For most of those in the Branson area, going to the Springfield club meetings meant traveling an hour or more both ways. It also meant a time commitment of four to five hours on a Tuesday evening, after already putting in an eight or ten hour day at work. So, to move away from traveling so far and putting that many hours in, the Branson folks saw the wisdom and attraction of having their own club.

The Branson folks indicated other reasons for gathering locally, too: getting to know local folks who are beekeepers, visit and learn from each other about bee issues/problems that may differ from those experienced in the city, and finally, the desire for a smaller club that is less formal and better suited to sitting around the table and simply enjoying coffee and cookies that look like honeybees and conversations about the delights and hardships of keeping bees in the Branson hills.

The Branson Bee Club held its first meeting Monday, June 20 at Daniel and Sue Chinn’s place in the woods in the climate controlled space called, “The Barn”. Twelve people attended and contributed enthusiastically to the two hour conversation. Questions were asked. Answers were given (mostly, “It depends.”). Stories were told. Jim Evans was the moderator and leader of this meeting and the Branson Bee Club. Jim has kept bees since 1974 and currently oversees 70 some hives and joyfully mentors novice beekeepers like the Chinns. The expectations for the club members are simple: attend the monthly meetings as often as possible, encourage one another in the beekeeping endeavor, contribute to the conversations during the meetings, promote beekeeping in the Branson and surrounding areas, and always remember the answer most often given at bee club meetings is, “It depends”.

The future of the Branson Club meeting looks as bright as the yellow pollen gathered by the bees, gift of grace that they are. This club plans to gather for their second meeting Monday,
National Pollinator Week takes Flight during COVID-19!

- Cathy Misko, MSBA Legislative Liaison and Heartland Beekeeping Partnership, cathymisko@earthlink.net

National Pollinator Week 2020 will forever be remembered as a time of great flexibility, last minute “yeses”, last minute “nos”, and last minute “yeses” again! All this proves that beekeepers freely jump through hurdles to share the joy of the complexities and spectacular instincts of the honey bees!

For the tenth year, I packed up the van to organize a spread for Powell Gardens, Kansas City’s Botanical Garden in Kingsville, MO. This year will be simple for our county just loosened covid-19 restrictions: Teaching hive, package, smoker, hive tool, one jacket, and the stars of the show in the observation hive with the queen and her bees, and a jar of watered down honey for the kids to “feed” the bees! Of course the queen catcher and marking tube for everyone wants to know, “How did the queen get that spot?” Ink pad and various bee stamps were also priority. An alcohol pad to clean the stamp in between uses and of course a jar of hand sanitizer was provided. Powell Gardens gifted their Family Frolic with pollinator kites from the Great American Kites and also assisted kids with making native plant seed bombs! https://www.facebook.com/GreatAmericanKites/videos/951109558636074/

Upon showing how the beekeepers use a queen catcher to mark a queen, out fell a drone when the clip was opened. Oh dear, for he spent the night in there; apparently he lagged behind after I caught half dozen drones from various hives to add to the observation hive. Everyone wants to “see the boys” especially young fellas! I decided to place him into a queen cage so people can see how we transport queens. He was hungry so he was given a drop of honey water. The drone became so sticky that he managed to get stuck on his back in the cage. Here is a picture of a fascinated gentle youngster washing off the drone with a paint brush and water. This will be a forever precious memory of the kindness in our future generation!

It never gets old bragging about the bees and seeing the widest of eyes on the faces and young and younger alike. Kids skip away with bee stamps sometimes all over their bodies, parents walk away wondering where they can place a hive…everyone walks away with a package of pollinator seeds wondering where they should be sprinkled! All so that the pollinators and our eyes can feast on their beauty! By the way, no worries. That drone made it back home and was placed safely in the hive! He now has potential to offer his own contribution in the name of pollination!

Continued on page 8
National Pollinator Week takes Flight during COVID-19!

- Cathy Misko, MSBA Legislative Liaison and Heartland Beekeeping Partnership, cathamisko@earthlink.net

Not to be forgotten and celebrated finally during Pollinator Week was Johnson County MO Beekeepers Association first Beginning Beekeeping Workshop with outreach to over fifty registrants. The workshop had been in the works since October 2019 and dually approved with Apprentice Level credentials via the Great Plains Master Beekeeper Program. Due to Covid-19, the workshop was put on hold a few days before it was scheduled (March 17th) and rescheduled again for April. Then thirdly, rescheduled for June 28th! Gee, we worked so hard to fine tooth the program, stellar line up of presenters, Beekeeping handbooks, presentation notebooks, door prizes, catered meal and refreshments, cush venue with a ceiling height that reached the heavens, and a professional tech team… We were pumped!

Changing such a program from winter to the peak of beekeeping and honey season is a challenge. Volunteer beekeepers are busy balancing hive inspections, adding supers during the honey flow, extracting, swarm chasing, and also selling honey at farmer’s markets etc. We had to be flexible and change some of the lineup but all worked out perfectly. I cannot be more “puffed up” and thankful to those who served. Yes, some beekeepers who felt at risk have reserved to stay home until there is a vaccination for covid and that is understandable. Masks were welcomed but not mandatory. Sanitizers were at every table and doubled on refreshment tables. Our caterer agreed to plate our lunch instead of buffet style. All were encouraged to respect 6 feet distancing, walk about like driving a car (hugging the right), and if anyone felt ill or around someone ill, they were to let us know and be excused… we will get back with them to help with beekeeping.

Tonight JoCoMoBA will conduct Part 2 of the program covering a “Hands on” Equipment Assembly and How to Make it Last! Speaking of “hands on”, these registrants cannot wait to get their hands on their own bees, prepped and excited for the spring of 2021! Especially Russ Webb who won the free hive (donated by Tony Axton) and a package of bees! Come on 2021!
Missouri Scores More Bee Food

Missouri now joins 7 other states with pollinator-friendly solar scorecards including Minnesota, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, South Carolina, Vermont and Virginia. Pollinator-friendly Solar scorecards are also published for more than a dozen states.

The solar site score cards are used in several other states and in county ordinances including Michigan, Ohio and North Carolina.

This evaluation and planning tool has been created to assist in the establishing and managing habitat beneficial to Missouri native pollinators at solar energy systems. Score card users check the boxes and add up points to determine whether their habitat planting plans add to pollinator habitat:

https://extensiondata.missouri.edu/Pro/MasterPollinatorSteward/Docs/pollinator-habitat-planning-tool-solar-sites.pdf

The solar site score card is the latest step to help increase pollinator habitat.

In Missouri, more than 90% of the land is privately-owned so landowners play an important part in providing more pollinator habitat.

Bayer Blue Ribbon Beekeeper Award

The Blue Ribbon Beekeeper Award recognizes students between the ages of 12 and 18 who are actively working to support honey bee and pollinator health in their communities. Those who apply have the opportunity to win $3,000 (1st place), $2,000 (2nd place) or $1,000 (3rd place) to support the continuation of their work or to help fund their college tuition.

“Now more than ever, it’s critical that the industry recognize and empower students who will become our future scientists, resource managers, environmentalists, apiarists and educators,” said Aímee Hood, Regulatory and Scientific Engagement Lead. “Whether they’re already keeping bees or working in the lab to find solutions for pollinators’ most pressing issues, such as a lack of abundant forage, Bayer is thrilled to seek out the next generation of biodiversity champions.”

Last year, Bayer introduced the Blue Ribbon Beekeeper Award, which recognized past winners and standout applicants of its former program, the Young Beekeeper Award.

This year’s program will again celebrate the outstanding achievements of young people who have made a positive impact on their communities through beekeeping or other pollinator-related research and activities.

Seminar on How to Attract Backyard Wildlife

Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) held a free live Wild Webcast on Attracting Backyard Wildlife on Wednesday, July 1. MDC Urban Wildlife Biologist Erin Shank of Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center explained the basics of creating backyard wildlife habitat; the importance of native plants and insects for pollination, wildlife food, and other benefits: planning and designing native plantings; attracting birds; supporting pollinators such as butterflies and bees; and more.
Bayer Seed Giveaway Program

In recognition of National Pollinator Week June 22-28, 2020, the Bayer Feed a Bee initiative is relaunching its seed giveaway program, focused on making free seeds available to pollinator enthusiasts around the country looking to do their part to support the health of bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

Those interested in requesting pollinator-attractant seeds can visit FeedABee.com/seeds/ to request a free shipment of Feed a Bee seed packets. The maximum you can order per address is 20 packets, which can be used to create a pollinator haven to help fill the gap of existing pollinator forage sources across the U.S.

*Due to overwhelming support from the Feed a Bee community, we have exhausted the current supply of free seeds. Please check back in the future. Share your wildflower and bee photos with the #FeedABee hashtag.

MSBA Joins Other Beekeeping Groups Calling for No More Neonicotinoid Use

Missouri State Beekeepers Association June 17, 2020 joined other national beekeeping groups calling for a ban on outdoor uses of the neonicotinoid class products.

MSBA joins the Pollinator Stewardship Council, American Beekeeping Federation and National Honey Board asking the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to not re-register the neonicotinoid class of systemic insecticides: The courts have found EPA recklessly registered dicamba and neonicotinoids.

https://usrtk.org/pesticides/court-orders-epa-approvals-of-bayer-dicamba-herbicide-vacated-says-regulator-understated-the-risks/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=0f628a86-da0e-4784-b1e3-7ed7e44fbb2e

A peer-reviewed study published in Plos One compares year to year changes in how hazardous U.S. agriculture is for bees and other insects. Over the past two decades, it shows an explosion in toxicity—U.S. agriculture has become 48 times more toxic to insect life, and the main culprit is a class of insecticides that were introduced in the 1990s called neonicotinoids, or neons. Neonics are responsible for 92% of the surge in toxicity.

https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article/file?type=printable&id=10.1371/journal.pone.0220029&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=0f628a86-da0e-4784-b1e3-7ed7e44fbb2e

The deadline to make comments to EPA was June 18, 2020.

For more information, visit pollinatorstewardship.org.
Great Plains Master Beekeeping, out of the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, is making their June 13-14, 2020 “Virtual Fun Day” online videos available to registered master beekeeping program members for free through July 21, 2020.

To access the videos, you have to be registered with the Great Plains Master Beekeeping program: https://gpmb.unl.edu/become-member

Videos cover a range of topics from troubleshooting in the apiary with Dr. Judy Wu-Smart to small scale honey extraction with Dustin Scholl.

You will find hive product recipes in the back of the weekend program.

I watched all of the presentations live and was once again struck by the generosity and helpfulness of the beekeeping community.
History Tidbit - Clayton Lee, MSBA Past President

Most information taken from: Gleanings in Bee Culture, January 15, 1900, Page 56-57

Who was J. L. Peabody?
Peabody invented the first honey-extractor ever marketed in the United States. He patented his extractor in 1869 and began selling it in 1870. Originally called a honey-emptying machine, his extractor was all metal and looked very neat. His brother (inventor the Peabody rifle) helped design and make the extractor.

SAVE THE DATE!
2nd Annual Spring Field Day
May 1, 2021 Arcadia, Missouri ~ Iron County
(More information to follow)

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the 2020 Spring Field Day was canceled and has now been rescheduled for next spring. The MSBA Board members are committed to our state beekeepers health and welfare and will keep you informed to future event schedules and any cancellations as the need arises.
Want to get the word out about your local honey?

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association can now help you do just that!

The MSBA has created a list, and a map, where MSBA members can post honey and honey products for sale to help people in your area find your ‘local honey’ via the MSBA website (www.mostatebeekeepers.org).

If you would like to get on the Local Honey list go to http://mostatebeekeepers.org/local-honey-form/ and fill out the form to apply. Once your form is submitted, we will verify your membership and add you to the list and map. We will be sharing the link to the local honey map on social media and other outlets and suggest all members do the same so we all can help bring local honey to the public!

You will be asked multiple questions and will need to ‘educate’ your customers. Please be patient and understanding at the same time and remember you are representing your association when working with the public. Just think back to the time when you were a new‘bee’.

If you have any questions, please contact Kyle Day at westcentraldir@mostatebeekeepers.org

MSBA Benefits Committee Just another great benefit for the members of the MSBA

WANTED: BEEKEEPING RELATED PHOTOS FOR USE IN MSBA’S MARKETING MATERIAL

Do you have a great photo of your beehives, equipment or apiary? As an active member of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association you can submit your photos (with full credit given) for use in any communications/marketing material. List of shots wanted are listed below, but not limited. Photos will be used in the Newsletter, Event Flyer’s, Email Campaigns, Facebook Announcements, etc. When submitting photos please provide your name and location (city, town, or county) to make sure credit is given properly. To submit photos or for more information email MSBAnewsletter@gmail.com

Queen Spotting Honey Bee Closeup Beekeeping Equipment Beehives Bee Yard Bee on Flower Snow on Bee Hives Bee in Flight Varroa Mite Small Hive Beetles Honeycomb Honey Jars Extracting Processes Keeper looking into hives Any other shots of interest

Photos should be of good quality, not blurry/fuzzy, no less than 150 dpi (for best printing quality use 300 dpi). MSBA reserves the right to reject photos not of printable quality or if subject matter is not appropriate or beekeeping related.
Advertising Opportunity

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association wants to give our members the best information and resources available for their beekeeping operations. This includes access to equipment and supplies. Starting in January 2020 you will be able to advertise in the MSBA Newsletter and reach members all across the state. With four ad sizes and very reasonable rates this will fit anyone's advertising budget.

Sizes and rates available
Full page .................. (8.5” x 10”) ..................$100
Half page .................(8.5” x 5”) ..................$60
Quarter page ..........(4.25” x 5”) ..................$35
Thumbnail ..............(2.5” square) ..................$20

Advertising that is not beekeeping related will not be allowed. Publication dates are within the first 15 days of issue month. Ads must be paid for before the issue month. Listed prices are per issue. Receive a 15% discount on half page or full page ad size when you pre-pay for all 6 issues. There are 6 issues per year; January, March, May, July, September, and November. A contract is available, if needed.

Artwork specifications
Full color - 300 dpi
Saved as Print Quality/High Resolution
Outlined fonts and embedded images.

File formats acceptable;
PDF, PNG, JPG, TIFF, Adobe CC

For more information please contact the Newsletter Editor at MSBAnewsletter@gmail.com or send a message through our website to the Communication & Marketing Chair at http://mostatebeekeepers.org/executive-committee/
Know Your Board

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association is managed by an all volunteer force of passionate beekeepers from across the state. The diverse experiences and knowledge is evident when each work together within the Executive Committee and Board Members as a team. Together they work to bring the latest and greatest information out there to our MSBA membership.

To contact a committee/board member go to mostatebeekeepers.org/executive-committee/

Executive Committee* and Board Members

- President * Cory Stevens
- Vice President * Randy Ewart
- Past President * Clayton Lee
- Secretary* (interim) Kyle Day
- Treasurer * Wes Johnston
- Membership Chair Wanda Johnston
- Comm/Marketing Chair and Newsletter Editor Jeania Schmalhorst
- Program Chair Bruce Snavely
- State Fair Coordinator Erin Mullins
- Queen/Ambassador Chair Amy Giffen

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association’s Liaisons and Ambassador

- MSBA Partnership Liaison Charlotte Ekker Wiggins
- MSBA Legislative Liaison and Heartland Beekeeping Partnership Cathy Misko
- Missouri Task Force Great Plains Master Beekeeping Program Randy Ewart Gregg Hitching Charlotte Ekker Wiggins
- Missouri Honey Youth Ambassador Hannah Gebhardt

Regional Directors

- East Central Mike Wagner
- Northeast Bob Brammer
- Northwest Roger Nichols
- Southeast Jeff Mayfield
- Southwest Valorie Nickols
- West Central Ray Shadow

Executive Committee and Board members (left to right)
(Seated) Mike Wagner, (Standing L-R) Wes Johnson, Amy Giffen, Kyle Day, Jeania Schmalhorst, Randy Ewart, Erin Mullins, Cory Stevens, Maxwell Helm, Jeff Mayfield, Roger Nichols, and Clayton Lee
(not present) Cathy Misko, Charlotte Ekkor Wiggins, Bob Brammer, Wanda Johnston, Hannah Gebhardt and Gregg Hitchings