I have enjoyed the past two years as president of the MSBA. I got to participate in eight local association meetings, and I wish to thank everyone again for their kindness and hospitality. We all know and realize how important honey and the honeybee is in our lives and in agriculture. Honeybees pollinate many of the foods we eat, and honey is a much healthier food than processed sugar. We need strong state and local organizations to get the message out to everyone - not only our family and customers, but to our legislators and our fellow Missourians. We need the support of every beekeeper in Missouri - from hobbyist to sideliner to commercial producers. We all need to be active in our local and state organizations.

The small hive beetle has been found here in Missouri. We will work through this, just like we have the varroa mites, American Foul Brood, etc. The challenges are what keep beekeeping interesting. If we are not afraid of getting stung, a beetle or a mite shouldn't intimidate us.

We had a great turnout at the tri-state meeting in Keokuk this year. Missouri had the highest attendance of all three states. That's showing them we mean business, isn't it? The Missouri State Fair was another great year increasing our gross sales above last year again. Our fall meeting at Burr Oak Woods Nature Center was another successful and informative meeting, thanks to Glenn Davis. Thanks to all of you who participated in these events.

We have a fantastic slate of officers for the next year. I hope you will give them the same support and encouragement you have given me. I know I will support them all I can.

Art Gelder

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Did you know you can give the gift of bees this holiday season? For as little as $30 Heifer International will set an impoverished family up with bees and training. From India to the Dominican Republic Heifer International helps families earn income through the sale of honey, beeswax, and pollen.

Merry Christmas!
Editors Note

Greetings! And before I go any father I wish you all a Very Merry Christ filled Christmas. And a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

**This issue is packed with lots of info.**

The American Beekeeping Federation is having there 60th Anniversary Celebration in Kansas City January 12th - 17th. If you can make it for one of the days it looks to be impressive. Both Missouri State and Kansas State Beekeepers will have booths along with lots of vendors.

The Fall meeting Was a great time. Glenn Davis you did a wonderful job!!

Please take a minute to look over the list of businesses that contributed to the meeting.

Monte Richardson was elected as our new Vice President and Chris Gibbons is stepping up to the Presidents office next year. Art Gelder has been an immense asset to this organization and we are grateful for his hard work and dedication.

I hope your hives are prepared for this cold weather. Mostly I wish the cold weather would just go away.

John Sauls

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The following is a list of Queen and Bee Equipment Suppliers that donated to the raffle and door prizes at the Missouri State Beekeepers Meeting. We want to thank them all for their generous donations.

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2—division board feeders
2—hive tools

**Walter Kelley**
1—Book “How to Keep Bees & Sell Honey”
1—Bee Vale
1—Book “Smoking Allowed”
10 sheets of wired foundation

**York Bee Co**
4—Queens

**Brushy Mountain Bee**
1—Hive tool
IPM Bottom Board

**Golden Heritage Foods** — Stoller
10—Frame spacers

**Dadant**
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Smoker
Book “The Class Room”
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**Better Bee**
$10 Gift Certificate

**National Honey Board**
Sweat Shirt

**Speedy Bee**
2—two year subscriptions

**Mid-Con**
Bee Jewelry
And Lots of other items
That did not get listed

**Kona Queens**
5—Queen Bees

**Glory Bee**
2—Hive Tools

**Draper Super Bee**
Bee Hat
Hive Brush
Hive Tool

**Western Bee Supply**
1—Complete insulated hive
From Monte Richardson, Vice President
Hello,

It's difficult to write to people that you don't know. But I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself since I am a newcomer to the Missouri State Beekeepers Association. I grew up in beekeeping. My grandfather Hubert "Smitty" Smith had a 2,000 hive Queen, package, and pollination operation in California. My mother and father moved to New Bloomfield (Jeff City) in the late 60's and the bee operation moved from California to Sugar Creek MO a couple of years later. In the mid 70's my grandparents moved the bee business, 300 hives, to Clinton MO. My grandfather had a heart condition and had to "retire" I learned how to drive a 1-ton truck at 14 years old. I was moving bees into pollination and second honey crops by myself at age 16. We kept the bee business at about 350-400 hives while I attended school.

I graduated high school in 1980 and went to Central Missouri State University for a couple of years. College didn't seem to be the thing for me to do at that time so I went into the Marine Corps Reserves. I came back from Boot Camp and went back to CMSU for a Criminal Justice degree and eventually got a job with Sedalia Police Department. I've held offices in the local chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police including Secretary and Vice President. I am the head Deacon and treasurer of my church. I've been married to my wife Glenda for almost 20 years. We have two marvelous children, 12 year old Tiffany and 6 year old Curtis.

I sold the bee business before going into the Marine Corps thinking that I couldn't support a family with a bee business in Missouri. When I sold out honey was selling at 55-60 cents a pound wholesale. Gas was $1.50 a gallon. Queens were selling for $5.00 each. The mites hadn't been found yet. I had never seen foul brood. And terramycin was a one dose a year "precautionary" measure.

My, how things have changed. Last year about this time I decided to get back into the bees. The price of honey was 70 cents a pound, etc., etc., etc. Now I have two hives and working to expand them. I'm driving down the road looking for bee pasture in stead of expired license plates. I'm reading everything I can on how to manage bees with as little chemical intervention as possible. And I've met a bunch of people in the last year that have shown amazing patience with me.

The Tri-State meeting last year was interesting. I learned a lot about mites and bee diseases. It wasn't until late summer that I learned that there were local bee clubs in my area. My wife and I went to the Winter Meeting in Kansas City hoping to meet some other beekeepers and learn more on how to keep our hives productive. I can honestly say that there was something for everybody at the meeting.

Over the next year I would like to visit each of the local beekeeper associations. The Vice Presidents position is one of learning and assisting the president and I am eager to learn. I have come into this in a spirit of open mindedness and am willing to listen to others and share ideas. I'm looking forward to the American Bee Federation meeting in Kansas City in January. This is a unique chance for even a hobbyist like me to go and see what is happening in the bee industry.

I want to publicly thank Art Gelder for his work over the last year. I've seen him at the meetings and seen how he made sure things were running smoothly. He was probably the most excited person at the honey booth at the State Fair. I look forward to Chris Gibbons' capable leadership over the next two years. There are several things that the 'team' will be working on. First of all will be the ABF Convention. The Spring Conference isn't far off either. I look forward to getting to know as many of you as possible.

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My thanks to Pam Brown for contributing to this news-letter recipe section.

Pam Brown

1. Ask your doctor about eucalyptus honey. Preliminary research involving dogs suggests that eucalyptus honey eye drops can help reverse cataracts.

2. **Honey Mustard Yogurt Dip or Dressing**

   1 cup plain, low-fat yogurt, drained*

   2 Tablespoons honey mustard

   2 Tablespoons sherry wine vinegar

   For dip: Mix together all ingredients.

   For dressing: Do not drain yogurt. Simply mix all ingredients together

3. **BANANA STRAWBERRY SHAKE**

   1 peeled frozen banana, cut into two-inch pieces

   1 cup frozen strawberries (not packed in sugar syrup)

   1 cup skim milk

   2 teaspoons honey

   4 Tablespoons whey protein powder, plain or vanilla flavor (in health food stores). Place ingredients in a blender, and mix until smooth, about 45 seconds. If too thick, add more milk to taste. Yields one 20-ounce shake.

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Kansas City — Great Time for the Whole Family

The ABF Convention Committee is working hard to see that the 60th Anniversary Convention is a family-friendly convention. "There are just so many attractions that all the family will enjoy, that it would be a shame to leave the family home," says Joli Winer, one of the local arrangements coordinators. She put together the list below ("10 Reasons...") to draw attention to what the Kansas City area has to offer.

The family-oriented activities begin on Sunday, Jan. 12, when the Kids & Bees program will take place 2-4 p.m. at Science City in the restored Union Station across the street from the convention hotel, the Westin Crown Center. The hotel itself is a prime attraction for families, since it includes the Crown Center shopping and entertainment complex, all under the same roof — along with 6 movie theaters. While the beekeeper of the family is hearing the convention presentations, the rest of the family doesn't have to sit in a boring hotel room.

The convention proper begins on Monday, Jan. 13, with the meeting of the ABF Delegates Assembly, followed by the opening ceremonies. On Monday afternoon, the ABF Special Interest Groups will give commercial beekeepers, honey packers, queen breeders, and even hobbyists an opportunity to focus on points of special interest to them.

The ABF Auxiliary will have its annual breakfast and meeting on Tuesday. In the afternoon, convention attendees can get an appraisal on their beekeeping oldies at the Beekeepers Antique Show & Bee Market, which will be located inside the Trade Show.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, general session presentations will cover all the latest topics of interest to beekeepers as well as looks ahead at where the industry is going. Wednesday, an evening of fun, food, and fund-raising, including live music, is planned. (See Page 8 for a tentative listing of convention presentations.)

Thursday morning will see a reprise of the popular ABF educational workshops. Eight individual workshops are scheduled, ranging from relations between queen breeders and their customers to making soap products from beeswax and honey. In the afternoon, the annual ABF business meeting will be held, and a Beginning Beekeepers Short Course will be conducted. The 60th anniversary banquet will conclude the convention's activities.

10 REASONS
to make ABF/Kansas City a family affair

1. The new Kansas City Science Museum, Science City, in the restored Union Station, across the street, connected with a skywalk. You don't even have to walk outside to get to it.
2. Kaleidoscope arts & crafts experience operated by Hallmark Cards, adjacent to the hotel.
3. Crown Center shopping and entertainment complex, under the same roof as the Westin Hotel. Includes 6 movie theaters.
4. Coterie Theater, a children's theater located in the hotel.
5. The new IMAX theater, located in the Union Station, accessible without having to go outside.
6. Meals that don't cost a fortune! 14 restaurants located on the hotel property. From fast food to gourmet meal, plus an ice cream shop.
7. The Arabia Steamboat Museum. See the actual recovered cargo and portions of a riverboat that went down in 1856. Just a 25¢ shuttle ride from the hotel.
8. Shopping! Over 65 shops located right in the hotel! That's a dream come true.
9. The new American Jazz Museum and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in the same complex and easy to get to.
10. We need more numbers because there are way more than 10 reasons to bring your family to Kansas City! Here are 10 more: American Heartland Theater in the hotel, Hallmark Visitor Center adjacent to the hotel; City Dome (Laser Show & Special Effects) at Union Station; Nelson-Atkins Art Museum and the Toy and Miniature Museum, both located just a few miles from the hotel; the newly restored Liberty Memorial, adjacent to the hotel; indoor-outdoor swimming pool in the hotel; health center; ice skating across the street; and the best BBQ in the world. See www.visitrkc.com for more ideas.

Bring the Kids and See What They Can Add to the List.

"The Scout" overlooks the Kansas City Skyline.
Tentative Program
American Beekeeping Federation 2003 Annual Convention
60th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, January 12, 2003
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Kids & Bees Program
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  ABF Board of Directors
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Early Bird Slide Shows
- Sharon Gibbons Reports on Her New Zealand Beekeeping Trip
7:00 p.m.  10:00 p.m.  ABF Committees: Research, Resolutions, Honey Queen

Monday, January 13, 2003
6:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  ABF Delegates Assembly
9:30 a.m.  Opening Ceremonies
- President's Address - Pat Heitkamp
- Legislative Report - David Ellingson and Fran Boyd
- Honey Queen Report
- Research Report - Danny Weaver

Monday Afternoon
1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Special Interest Groups.
- Commercial Beekeepers - George Hansen, leader
- Package Bees & Queens - Gus Rouse, leader
- Honey Packing - Rick Sutton, leader
- Hobbyists - John Talbert, leader
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  Welcome to Kansas City, Honey Queen Reception

Tuesday, January 14, 2003
ABF Auxiliary Breakfast and Meeting
- George Hansen: “Bears, Bees and Barcodes” (with music)

Tuesday, afternoon
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Beekeepers Antique Show & Bee Market
- Appraisals of Your Bee Goodies
- Report from Canada - Tim Wendell, Saskatchewan
- PANEL, Alternative Mite Control Methods - Tim Wendell, moderator, Bob Stevens of Betterbee; Steve Forrest of Brushy Mountain Bee Supply
- Sharon Gibbons, Clint Walker: “U.S. Honey Promotion by Producer-Packers”

Wednesday, January 15, 2003
“Second Generation Beekeeper and Still Ticking” - David Ellingson
- Marion Ellis: “Using Inert Dust to Reduce Varroa Populations”
- “Honey and the National Honey Board: Worth Every Penny”

Wednesday Afternoon
- Report from Baton Rouge Bee Lab - Tom Rinderer, Lab Director: “A Review of Activities at Baton Rouge” and “What’s Up with the Russian Honey Bees?”
- The Honey Bee Genome Project - Kevin Hackett, Gene Robinson, Danny Weaver
- “Nothing Less than a Revolution - Radical Changes or Just Full Circle?” - Marla Spivak
- Evening of Food, Fun, Fund-Raising

Thursday, January 16, 2003
Educational Workshop Sessions:
- Promising Alternative Mite Treatments - Formic Acid
- Selling Your Honey Wholesale - How to Build Relationships between Producers and Packers
- Selling Your Honey Retail
- Queens Breeders and their Customers
- Honey Extracting Set-Ups
- Updates on Control of Traditional Diseases
- Exchanging Bee Colonies for Increased Utilization
- Making Soap from Beeswax

Thursday afternoon
ABF Business Meeting
Beginner Short Course - Instructors: Marion Ellis, Marla Spivak, Gary Reuter
7:00 p.m. 60th Anniversary Banquet

Friday, January 17, 2003
- ABF Board of Directors

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE

- ABF 2002/2003 Members (First Person)  Pre-Conv. At Conv. $145.00 ea.  $170.00 ea.
- Additional Persons (Family/Company) $ 90.00 ea.  $115.00 ea.
- Non-Members (First Person)  Pre-Conv. At Conv. $170.00 ea.  $195.00 ea.
- Additional Persons (Family/Company) $115.00 ea.  $140.00 ea.
- Daily Registration - $60.00 per day

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