

Missouri State Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075

www.mostatebeekeepers.org

September 2007

Eugene Makovec
Editor

Missouri Beekeepers to Meet in Mark Twain's Hannibal Fall Meeting to Feature Dewey Caron, Dann Purvis

University of Delaware entomologist **Dewey M. Caron, Ph. D.**, will be the primary speaker at the MSBA's annual Fall Meeting in Hannibal.

Dr. Caron, a past Chairman of the Board of Eastern Apiculture Society, holds a Ph.D in Entomology from Cornell University, an M.S. in Ecology from the University of Tennessee and a B.A. in Zoology from the University of Vermont. He has taught at the University of Delaware since 1981, and is nationally renowned for his research in such areas as pollination ecology, honeybee swarming and queen replacement, and integrated pest management (of both plant and insect pests). He teaches on a wide variety of environmental and apicultural subjects, and is in high demand as a speaker.

Dr. Caron will lecture on a variety of issues, including Honeybee Nutrition and how it may relate to Colony Collapse Disorder, Africanized Honeybees in the Americas (specifically in Missouri), Fall and Winter Management, and his research on mite thresholds.

The two-day meeting will be held Friday and Saturday, November 2 and 3 at:

Quality Inn and Suites
120 Lindsey Drive
(Hwy 36 two miles west of 61)
Hannibal, MO 63401
573-221-4001
gm.mol79@choicehotels.com

Mention the MSBA when booking your room to receive the group rate of \$69.95 for single or double, including a full hot breakfast buffet. This rate is good Thursday through Sunday nights, but can be extended if you wish to stay in town longer. The block of rooms will be held for us until October 18. Rooms include irons, hair dryers and coffee makers. The hotel has an indoor pool, hot tub, and exercise and game rooms. Up to two pets are allowed for a \$10.00 charge. Suites are available for an extra charge.

Also speaking at the meeting will be **Dann Purvis**, of Georgia-based Purvis Brothers Apiaries. Purvis Brothers is known for its Goldline Enhanced Survival Queens. Purvis will speak to us about queen breeding and selection for the best Missouri stock.

In addition to the regularly scheduled meeting activities, attendees will have the opportunity to tour a state-of-the-art honey house at **Andrew Honey Farm**, about 45 minutes away in Quincy, IL. MSBA member **Bernie Andrew** spoke to us several years ago about the construction of the honey house, along with all the regulatory and logistical hurdles that needed to be overcome. We will now have the chance to see the completed project in person.

Program Director Sharon Gibbons has also arranged a trolley tour of Hannibal. It will include stops at Mark Twain Cave, historic downtown Hannibal, Molly Brown's Birthplace, Mark Twain Riverboat and more. There will be a charge for this tour. If interested, please sign up using the meeting registration form on page 5 of this newsletter. There is also a river cruise available via the Mark Twain Riverboat on Saturday afternoon.

Please support our meetings by attending. If you support our banquet and lunches at the meetings, we will be able to meet the \$3000 food minimum required to get free meeting rooms.

All meeting questions can be directed to Sharon Gibbons at sgibbs314@earthlink.net.

One of many species of English Lavender, *Lavandula angustifolia*, or "Royal Velvet",

shows off its long stems and three-to-four-inch flower spikes. Lavender is known for its rapid growth, low maintenance and lengthy blooming period (late Spring through mid Summer in Missouri).

"Lavender" is derived from the Latin "lavare", meaning "to wash"; the Romans bathed in lavender-scented water. Other uses for this herb include potpourris, flavoring for food and drink, natural insect repellent and relief for burns and insect bites.

— photo by Eugene Makovec

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From the President

by Ken Norman

The Missouri State Fair for 2007 is in the past, and what a hot time it was at the Fair. Dean Sanders did an outstanding job handling the Fair and coordinating the workers throughout the heat wave. The Missouri State Beekeepers Association wishes to thank all the twenty-plus workers who gave up their time and gave of their talents to work at the Fair. A special thanks to Ron Vivian for keeping the honey ice cream frozen and ready to be sold, and to Glenn Davis for supplying the main portion of the honey that was sold at the Fair. A special thanks to all the honey and bee product exhibitors at the Fair. It is through their contributions of entries that the Fair is enhanced. So next year all of the associations should look at putting in entrees for the 2008 Fair.

Two of the speakers for the fall state meeting will be Dann Purvis and Dewey Caron. Dann Purvis has spoken on the following subjects at the Eastern Apicultural Society in 2006: Setting up swarm boxes and finisher colonies, working in the bee yard, and bee genetics in the New Millennium. In addition to those topics, he posts his breeding philosophy and a list of his training references at the following website:

<http://web.mac.com/dannpurvis/iWeb/Purvis%20Brothers%20Bees.com/Reference.html>

Dr. Caron has also spoken at the Eastern Apicultural Society, on the following subjects: Biology of the Honeybee, Africanized Bees in Bolivia, Bees and the Flowers they Love, and Feeding the Honeybee. In addition, Dr. Caron is the author of Honey Bee Biology & Beekeeping, which, according to Amazon.com, explains bee biology, what bees do, and provides the tools which make it possible for an individual to successfully manage bee colonies. The author has concentrated on the "why" aspects of bee biology so that the reader understands "when" and "how" certain things must be done to colonies. Bees and beekeeping are explained in a manner meaningful to a person who lacks an extensive background or knowledge of biology. Yet the author has not oversimplified bee biology to the point where it is meaningless to the serious beekeeper or informed biologist.

So get your questions ready for the main speakers and be ready to be informed on your future of beekeeping and the possibilities of queen production. I will see all you in Hannibal in the Fall.



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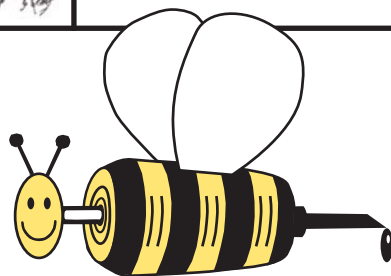
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MISSOURI STATE FAIR

2007 Apiculture Judging Contest Results

INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES			
Candied Honey	1 st Place	Glenn Davis	Bates City
	2 nd Place	Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph
Cut Comb	1 st Place	Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph
	2 nd Place	Sharon Gibbons	Ballwin
Light Bulk Comb	1 st Place	Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph
Light/Amber Extracted	1 st Place	Norm Grosche	Affton
	2 nd Place	Jim Fisher	Raymore
	3 rd Place	Glenn Davis	Bates City
	3 rd Place	Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph
	4 th Place	Bob Sears	St. Louis
	5 th Place	Ted Jansen	Chesterfield
	6 th Place	Bob Finck	Fenton
	7 th Place	Michael Dee	Herman Park
	8 th Place	Glenn Davis	Bates City
Dark Extracted	1 st Place	Bob Sears	St. Louis
	2 nd Place	Jim Fisher	Raymore
	3 rd Place	Norm Grosche	Affton
	4 th Place	Sharon Gibbons	Ballwin
	5 th Place	Kirby von Shouse	St. John
	6 th Place	Ted Jansen	Chesterfield
Bulk Wax	1 st Place	Bob Finck	Fenton
	2 nd Place	Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph
	3 rd Place	Sharon Gibbons	Ballwin
Sealed Shallow Frame	1 st Place	Glenn Davis	Bates City
	2 nd Place	Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph
Wax Art Design	1 st Place	Sharon Gibbons	Ballwin
Candles	1 st Place	Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph
	2 nd Place	Sharon Gibbons	Ballwin
INDIVIDUAL GRAND CHAMPION		Lowell Hutchison	St. Joseph

LOCAL ASSOCIATION ENTRIES			
Light/Amber Extracted	1 st Place	Midwestern	Glenn Davis
	2 nd Place	Eastern	Michael Dee
	3 rd Place	Eastern	Bob Finck
	4 th Place	Eastern	Norm Grosche
	5 th Place	Midwestern	Lowell Hutchison
	6 th Place	Midwestern	Jim Fisher
	7 th Place	Eastern	Ted Jansen
	8 th Place	Eastern	Bob Sears
Cut Comb	1 st Place	Midwestern	Glenn Davis
	2 nd Place	Eastern	Sharon Gibbons
Dark Extracted	1 st Place	Midwestern	Glenn Davis
	2 nd Place	Eastern	Norm Grosche
	3 rd Place	Eastern	Sharon Gibbons
	4 th Place	Eastern	Ted Jansen
	5 th Place	Midwestern	Jim Fisher
	6 th Place	Eastern	Bob Sears
Bulk Wax	1 st Place	Eastern	Bob Finck
	2 nd Place	Eastern	Sharon Gibbons
CLUB GRAND CHAMPION		Eastern Missouri Beekeepers	



Apitherapy News ...

New Medicinal Honey Product Launched in United Kingdom

A new medicinal honey product, called "Life Mel Honey," has been launched in the United Kingdom.

According to the product website: "Life Mel Honey is produced by bees fed on a special food mixture which enables them to make a unique form of honey with all the beneficial properties of the therapeutic herbs and natural ingredients. . .

Life Mel Honey uses nectar derived from therapeutic herbs including Siberian Ginseng, Echinacea and Uncaria Tomentosa, combined with a selection of natural ingredients including iron, protein and vitamins."

A recent hospital study indicated that Life Mel Honey can, in some patients, have a positive effect in increasing counts for red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets in the blood, and thus may be beneficial for people with reduced immunity. (Medical Oncology, Vol 23, No 4, 2006)

The technique for producing Life Mel Honey seems to be based on the "express" method of honey production developed in Russia by N.Yoirish.



Researchers explain Terramycin Resistance

American researchers have discovered why the American foulbrood (AFB) causing bacteria has suddenly developed resistance to the only treatment approved for use in the United States.

The antibiotic oxytetracycline (OTC), sold under the brand name Terramycin, has been used successfully for more than 50 years to kill the bacterium *Paenibacillus larvae*.

But in the last few years there have been several reports of OTC's loss of effectiveness.

Agricultural Research Service molecular biologist Dan Murray, who works at the ARS Honey Bee Research Unit at Weslaco, Texas, has figured out why.

Murray and molecular biologist Katherine Aronstein discovered in *P. larvae* a natural plasmid - dubbed pMA67 - that contains an OTC resistance gene. Plasmids are small DNA molecules containing up to several dozen genes that bacteria pass on when they reproduce.

This is the first report of any tetracycline resistance gene being found in any *Paenibacillus* bacteria.

Among 35 *P. larvae* strains tested from across the U.S. and one from Canada, all 21 OTC-resistant strains possessed this plasmid and all 15 OTC-sensitive strains did not.

"This finding was unexpected," Murray says. "Other scientists have found plasmids in various AFB bacterial strains but none of them conferred antibiotic resistance. This plasmid is significant because it has rendered useless what until very recently has been the only effective preventive treatment for AFB."

Fortunately, ARS scientists at Beltsville, Maryland, have recently shepherded approval by the Food and Drug Administration of a new antibiotic against AFB called tylosin.

The researchers say there are two likely reasons for the relatively rapid spread of OTC resistance: First, bees from broad geographical areas are brought together when beekeepers rent out their hives to agricultural producers for pollination. That means the bees can spread OTC-resistant bacteria to bees they wouldn't normally encounter.

Second, based on its DNA sequence, plasmid pMA67 is thought to have the ability to transfer to other bacterial cells in a process called plasmid mobilization. This means that, in addition to passing the plasmid - and its OTC resistance genes - on to their descendants, bacteria can physically transfer a copy of the plasmid to other bacterial cells they come in contact with.

It is the same phenomenon largely responsible for spread of antibiotic resistance among disease-causing bacteria in humans. OTC resistance in *P. larvae* is thought to have begun when, at some point, pMA67 was transferred from some other bacterial species into *P. larvae*. From Alan Harman.

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Missouri State Beekeepers Association

Fall 2007 Meeting Registration Form



NAME _____

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Pre-Registration Fees: Registration must be received by OCTOBER 19, 2007

Member – Pre-registration \$20.00 X _____ = _____

Family Member— Must have paid 2007 dues as a family member \$30.00 _____
Please list names attending for name badges: _____

Non-member –Pre-registration \$30.00 X _____ = _____

Registrations made after OCTOBER 19, 2007

Member -- \$25.00 X _____ = _____

(No family discount on late registrations)

Non-member – \$35.00 X _____ = _____

Trolley Tour of Historic Hannibal (\$7.50 for seniors) \$8.00 X _____ = _____

Friday Night Banquet : Crowning of 2008 Missouri Honey Queen

Adult - \$20.00 per person (\$20.00 x _____) = _____

Child - \$12.00/child under 12 (\$12.00 x _____) = _____

Saturday Lunch

Adult - \$12.50/person (\$12.50 x _____) = _____

Child - \$7.50/child under 12 (\$7.50 x _____) = _____

Membership 2008 Missouri State Beekeepers Assn. Individual: ☐ Renewal ☐ New \$15.00 _____

Membership 2008 Missouri State Beekeepers Assn. Family: ☐ Renewal ☐ New \$20.00 _____

Queen fund donation

Donation \$ _____

Meeting fund donation

Donation \$ _____

Plane fares for speakers have gone way up since we figured the registration fee. Any extra donation would be appreciated.

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: MO State Beekeepers Assn. Send to Pam Brown, 1407 Sneak Rd., Foristell, Mo. 63348. *If you pre-register and then cannot attend, your registration fee will be considered a donation and no refunds will be made. If you pay for meals and we are able to sell them you will be refunded for those.*



2007 Fall Meeting Agenda

Friday, November 2nd

8:30-9:30 Registration open
10:30-12:00 Set-up for Vendors in the Paradise Ballroom

Depart for Bernie Andrew's Honey House Tour: 9:30 am

Bernie's address is: 2848 E. 1400th St. Loraine, IL. 62349 (Maps will be available at the meeting.) Several years ago Bernie showed a PowerPoint presentation of the construction of his honey house. Come and see the completed structure. Bernie and his wife are planning a big event including refreshments that include honey ice cream (homemade), and cookies and brownies made with honey. Bernie is saving frames of honey to show us how he extracts, etc. Bernie says he needs no help, but maybe some of the officers could vounteer their help, especially with crowd control.

12:00-1:00 Registration open: Paradise Room
1:00-1:15 Announcements from President Ken Norman
1:15-2:00 **Honeybee Nutrition, and How it Relates to CCD.** Dr. Dewey Caron
2:00-2:45 **How to Prepare Beeswax: From Capping to Candles** Cecil Sweeney
2:45-3:10 Break and some door prizes
3:15-3:55 **Development of the Purvis Goldline -- Is it a Queen Suitable for the Midwest?** Dann Purvis
4:00-4:50 **Africanized honeybees in the Americas (specifically in Missouri)** Dr. Dewey Caron
6:00 PM **Honey Queen Banquet: Calypso Room**
Dinner menu: Italian Buffet includes antipasto, pasta salad, tossed greens, shrimp scampi, chicken parmesan, lasagna, seasonal vegetables, potatoes, and chef's choice of desserts.

Presentation by Queen Lori Guthals

Crowning of 2008 Missouri Honey Queen, conducted by Cathy Hogan and Queen Lori

8:30 **Executive Board Meeting -- Coral Room**

Meeting is open to all attendees, but a must for all officers and board members. Also a representative from each local should be there.

Saturday, November 3rd

7:30-8:00 Registration
8:00-8:15 Welcome and Announcements-Ken Norman
8:15-8:35 Greetings from Queen Chairperson **Cathy Hogan** and 2007 Queen **Lori Guthals**. Introduction of our 2008 Honey Queen. Bring silent auction items as a donation to support the queen program.
Auction items will be set up outside Calypso/Aloha Rooms, facing the pool area.
8:40-9:30 **Are Your Colonies Wrapped up for Fall?** Dr. Dewey Caron
9:30-10:15 **How to Breed for Survival, Breeding a Better Bee** Dann Purvis



2007 Fall Meeting Agenda (continued)

- 10:00-11:00 **Special trolley tour of Hannibal. Leave hotel at 9:30. See special sign-up on registration form. Limit is 32. Cost for group is \$7.50 (senior) or \$8.00 per person. Add 50 cents if we don't reach the group minimum of 20.**
- 10:15-10:40 Break and Raffle prize drawing
- 10:45-11:10 **National Honey Board-What's Next** Chris Gibbons, MO Nominations Committee member
- 11:15-11:55 **Value-Added Honey Products Through Craft Shows and Farmers Markets** Joli Winer
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch, in Calypso Room
Roasted Chicken Breast/wild rice/vegetables & salad
- 1:00-2:15 **Determining Mite Thresholds (My Research on Mites and IPM Management of Varroa Mites)**
Dr. Dewey Caron
- 2:15-2:45 **Designing Your Own Web Page** (Speaker to be announced) -- **Paradise Room**
Artificial Insemination Of Honeybee Queens Dann Purvis -- **Calypso Room**
Building Screen Bottom Boards -- Ian Brown -- **Coral Room**
- 2:45-3:15 Break — End of Silent Auction. Raffle Prize Drawing
- 3:15-4:15 Annual Business Meeting, Election of Officers
More door prizes

Weather permitting: Optional 1 hour tour available Saturday afternoon on the Mark Twain Riverboat. Sailing time is 1:30 or 4pm. Cost is \$13.00, \$10.00 for children ages 5 to 12. If you are interested, check in with Sharon or Pam on Friday morning. Website is www.marktwainriverboat.com

About our Speakers:

Dr. Dewey Caron - Author, award-winning teacher, and our featured presenter this year. Dr. Caron received his doctorate degree at Cornell University studying under Dr. Roger Morse. Dr. Caron has taught at the University of Maryland for 11 years and since 1981 at the University of Delaware. He was EAS Chairman for eight years and is coordinator of MAAREC, a cooperative research and extension group.

Dewey has published five books, of which the most familiar are "Africanized Honey Bees", "Observation Hives", which he co-authored with Thomas Webster, and "Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping". Dr. Caron's articles are frequently seen in beekeeping magazines. Dewey's work has been recognized often, but he is most proud of the EAS Roger A. Morse Award for Teaching, Extension, and Regulatory Excellence with Honeybees.

Dann Purvis - Founder of the Purvis Brothers Apiaries and Lab in Blainsville, Georgia. He began selection for varroa and tracheal mite resistant stock in 1997. He now selects from survivor colonies that have been left untreated. He calls them "goldline" bees.

Joli Wiiner and Cecil Sweeney: Owners of Heartland Apiary in Kansas. Long-time contributors to Missouri State Beekeepers.

Support our Vendors

As of press time, the following vendors had confirmed plans to attend the meeting. You can save on shipping costs by placing orders ahead of time to be picked up during the meeting.

Andrew Honey Farm -- Corn Syrup magic@adams.net

Draper's Super Bee -- All Beekeeping Supplies 402-274-3725

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M00396KIT LW Hand Extractor Kit \$521.00

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1 pkg @ 70# 1 pkg @ 8#
2 pkgs @ 35#

M00403KIT LW Power Extractor Kit \$764.95

This ships in 5 pkgs.
1 pkg @ 70# 1 pkg @ 13#
2 pkgs @ 35# 1 pkg @ 8#

Holds 6
frames

Dadant & Sons, Inc. Ranger Power Extractor Kit

Hand style also available

Ranger Extractor Kits—For those who prefer a radial extractor this is for you. The Ranger extracting kit is available in both the power and hand styles. It is capable of extracting 6 - 6 1/4" frames or shallow frames radially or three deep frames tangentially by using the optional baskets. The 6 frame radial extractor comes complete with extractor and stand, 1 bottling bucket kit, 1 speed king electric knife, plastic uncapping tub and 1 capping scratcher.

Optional baskets for deep frames sold separately.

M00400KIT Ranger Hand Extractor Kit \$618.95

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2 pkgs @ 35#

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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

A solution to the mystery of Colony Collapse Disorder?

by Eugene Makovec

In early September, the journal *Science* reported a breakthrough in research on the causation of this mysterious "disappearing disease". State-of-the-art gene sequencing technology, made possible by the recent mapping of the honeybee genome, identified a boatload of pathogens (including bacteria, fungi and viruses) present in both healthy bees and those from CCD-afflicted colonies.

The results point to a recently discovered organism known as Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus (IAPV). First observed in Israel in 2004, the virus was characterized by bees with shivering wings, which progressed to paralysis and, eventually, death just outside the hive.

That seems at first a rather odd conclusion, considering those symptoms don't match what we've heard about CCD, where the colony just disappears from the hive, often leaving a queen, brood and a handful of young workers, but no dead bees inside or out.

Still, the connection was compelling: While many disease organisms were present in most of the bees studied, IAPV was present in virtually all CCD samples, and in virtually none of the healthy bees.

As for the difference in symptoms, it's possible that IAPV may afflict colonies in different ways depending on what else is going on in the hive. A lot of people have thought all along that CCD could be due

to a variety of factors. Varroa have compromised the health of most of our bees, making them more susceptible to many of the diseases they normally fight off. Maybe if you add just one more stressor, it's like the straw that broke the camel's back. This idea is supported, too, by the fact that CCD hit migratory bee colonies the hardest; between the stress of being constantly on the move and the exposure to countless other bees and their respective maladies, these bees are living on the edge to begin with.

Then there's the Australian connection: 2004 was also the year we began importing bees from that continent, and IAPV is thought by some to have hitched a ride with them. (Aussie researchers are questioning that conclusion.)

Australia was and is varroa-free, and we needed the bees for our growing pollination needs. It is possible that Australian bees can coexist with IAPV where there is no varroa, and that American bees can live with varroa but no IAPV, but that together they provide a one-two punch that proves fatal.

Together, that is, with all the other viruses, bacteria and fungi. After all, it wasn't really the straw that broke the camel's back. It was the 200-pound rider, his 300-pound pack, and the long desert journey.

**MSBA Membership Application**

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Adult Membership \$15.00 ☐Family Membership \$20.00 ☐Student Membership \$5.00 ☐**Amount Enclosed \$** _____

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Honey Queen Report

by Lori Guthals

Hello Beekeepers!

It's that time of year again, when the school year has just begun and fall is lingering around the corner! I hate that fact that summer is almost over, but truthfully, I could definitely use a break from the heat, and I do love watching the leaves change color and fall to the ground! However, summer isn't quite over yet and the heat doesn't look like it is going to lighten up anytime soon, so let's enjoy it while it lasts!



Speaking of summer, I have had a terrific one! I just got back from the Missouri State Fair about a week ago and am still trying to recuperate! This year, I had the pleasure of working in the Honey Booth and meeting some really great people! I spent each day doing various activities, from walking the fairgrounds handing out honey sticks, to passing out bee stickers to the fairgoers as they passed by the booth! We had many interesting people pass by, including a giant woman who juggled bowling pins above my head! It was a little frightening, but I survived! It was all very fun and I had a great time doing it! To all the gentlemen working the booth, thank you so much for your kindness and warm welcoming; I really had a great time with you all!

Well, it's that time again, when I must let you go, but 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 to me. Her contact information is located on the association website, and in the column to the right.

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

Sincerely,

Lori Guthals

Heartland Honey and Beekeeping Supplies

19201 South Clare Road
Spring Hill, KS 66061

913-856-8356

www.heartlandhoney.com

Directory of Officers

President: Ken Norman 417-669-4452

3634 Shiloh Church Road, Marionville, MO 65705

president@mostatebeekeepers.org

Vice President: Scott Moser 636-285-7295

6600 Davis Lane, Cedar Hill, MO 63016

vicepresident@mostatebeekeepers.org

Secretary: Paul Harris 417-890-1008

3876 South State Hwy J, Springfield, MO 65809

secretary@mostatebeekeepers.org

Treasurer: Ron Vivian 816-690-7516

443 Fricke Road, Bates City, MO 64011-8280

treasurer@mostatebeekeepers.org

Past-President: Monte Richardson 660-826-4917

1405 S. Prospect Ave., Sedalia, MO 65301

pastpresident@mostatebeekeepers.org

Western Area Director: Glenn Davis 816-690-8007

4618 Highway Z, Bates City, MO 64011

westdir@mostatebeekeepers.org

Southern Area Director: Marlin Trout 417-830-7749

20445 Lawrence 2070, Ash Grove, MO 65604

southwdir@mostatebeekeepers.org

Eastern Area Director: Steve Harris 636-946-5520

1224 Sherbrooke Road, St. Charles, MO 63303

eastdir@mostatebeekeepers.org

Southeastern Area Director: Ray Batton 573-686-4888

3032 N. 14th St., Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

southedir@mostatebeekeepers.org

Program Chairperson: Sharon Gibbons 636-394-5395

314 Quinmoor Dr., Ballwin, MO 63011

sgibbs314@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor: Eugene Makovec 314-965-4631

643 Pearl Ave., Kirkwood, MO 63122

editor@mostatebeekeepers.org

Auxiliary Treasurer: Dolores Vivian 816-690-7516

443 Fricke Road, Bates City, MO 64011-8280

H1ybee@aol.com

Queen Chairperson: Cathy Hogan

P.O. Box 281, Boss, MO 65440

573-626-4493

queenchair@mostatebeekeepers.org

State Fair Chairman: Dean Sanders cell 816-456-4683

37804 Old Pink Hill Road, Oak Grove, MO 64075

Assist. Prof. Entomology/Extension Spec.:

Dr. Richard Houseman

1-87 Agricultural Building, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO 65211

Missouri State Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075

www.mostatebeekeepers.org



Baking With Bees: Glenda Mastek, (above, center) assists St. Louis area chefs as they prepare to say hello to their culinary friends, the honeybees.

Glenda, along with MSBA member Sharon Gibbons, recently had a whirlwind day with the St. Louis media in honor of National Honey Month. Sharon tells the story at right.

photo by Sharon Gibbons

Glenda Mastek, a staff member from the National Honey Board, spent two days, August 28th and 29th, in St. Louis to promote September as National Honey Month. Glenda and Sharon Gibbons made contacts with and had interviews on 97.1 FM, 88.7 FM at SIUE, with an editor at the Post Dispatch Food section, and on Wednesday evening hosted an event for the St. Louis Culinary Society. We invited chefs to don beesuits and visit beehives up close. Steve Harris assisted as we had the event at Little Creek Wildlife Center. Eighteen chefs along with Suburban Journal editor Janice Denham attended. We talked about honey and had a tasting of different honey from across the US. Also made sure we told them about the fake honeys on the market, especially in food service.

In return, the chefs fixed honey snacks for all of us to enjoy. A nice article was in the Suburban Journal Food section on September 12th, including some of the recipes. I couldn't believe it when 6 very large boxes arrived at my house prior to Glenda's arrival. The boxes held 20 full-sized beesuits, hats and gloves, that are owned by the NHB. The board has been doing promotions with chefs for the past 5 years. Glad that they picked St. Louis.

This newsletter is published six times per year, in odd 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.

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