Upcoming Events and Tidbits of Info:

June 2, 2015: Little Sandy Beekeepers, host Dan O’Hanlon, at 7 p.m. EDT at the Carter County Extension Office, 94 Fairgrounds Road, Grayson.

June 6, 2015: Kelley’s Field Day, Clarkson (Certified Bee City!). Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda, Clemson University, guest speaker. She is apiculture specialist at Clemson University and was a post-doctoral researcher at Purdue University, where she tracked down genes that help honeybees defend against Varroa mites! Adult registration is $25 for the day. Children 17 and under and adults 62 and over are $10. Lunch included. Space is limited, so please register now by signing up online using the link below. We would love to have you. Happy Beekeeping! https://www.kelleybees.com/Shop/1/Hives-Components/4622/Field-Day-Registration

June 13: The Little Sandy Beekeepers will have a potluck picnic, 1 p.m. EDT, Carter County Extension Office. 94 Fairgrounds Road, Grayson.

June 19: State Apiarist Tammy Horn Potter will appear with honey produced by Lucky Frost, a Kentucky Proud honey producer at Whole Foods in Lexington Green off Nicholasville Road on June 19 from 4-6 p.m. EDT. It’s part of Whole Foods Celebrates Pollinator Week June 15-21.

June 23: The Lake Barkley Beekeepers will host a booth at Graves County Ag Day to kick off the Purchase District Fair, 5 p.m. CDT, Mayfield/Graves County Fairgrounds, 1004 Housman St., Mayfield.

Jeremy Blankenship, Pike County Beekeepers, has hives for sale. The single deeps will be $240 for a deep, and with a shallow will be $280 if the customer buys 10. He can try to meet customers if necessary. His phone number is (276) 566-7613.

People have been intrigued by the honey analysis on Coal Country Beeworks’ 2014 honey. I sent it to Dr. Vaughan Bryant’s lab at Texas A&M. The sample was 4 ounces and cost $60 plus shipping and handling. The address is Palynology Research Laboratory, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-4352. Securely wrap samples.

Deadline for State Fair entries is July 1
Submit entries online at www.kystatefair.org.
The Kentucky State Fair is upon us, and I am excited! For the first time ever, there is a Black Jar category, which has only one criteria: taste. Period. The jar must arrive at the Fair already painted black.

The honey judge will be Ann Harman, who writes for Bee Culture magazine.

Bud Spath (KSBA 2014 Beekeeper of the Year) has sanded and polished the State Fair observation hives with varnish and shellac. They gleam and sparkle. Can’t wait to put bees in them!

It would be great if we could get more entries, especially in the youth divisions, beeswax, and gift baskets.

The American Honey Queen program is sending either Hayden Wolf or Gabrielle Hemesath. Some of you met the Princess in March. As soon as I know, I will send you the info!

Folks who want to sell honey at the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association booth, please email John Benham at purebarrenriverhoney@gmail.com.

Association and extension agents may make a delivery of association entries if the individual tag is attached to the item.

**June speaking engagements:**
- Kelley Field Day, Clarkson, June 6;
- Pennyrile B.A., Hopkinsville, June 8;
- Dark Honey Producers B.A., McKee, June 11;
- Big South Fork B.A., Whitley City, June 12;
- Boyle County Beekeepers, Danville, June 18;

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### Bowling Green Bee Lords raise hive funds with honey sale

The honey sale at Bowling Green High School this month was a quickly-realized success, reports Izzy Forbes, mentor for the Bee Lords beekeepers.

The $10-per-bottle honey sold so briskly “We couldn’t even get it unloaded from the boxes without people buying it right out of our hands,” Forbes said. Proceeds from the sale of the honey go toward maintenance of the school hive.

Sonara Schuck harvesting 40 pounds of honey.

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### Basswood: Nectar plant of the month

June Nectar Plant: Basswood (or linden) trees, *Tilia spp.*, are great “cradle-to-coffin” trees in Kentucky. Great pollen producer, colors yellow and light orange. Honey has a light minty flavor. Very short but prolific bloom period in June. The trees themselves exude sap, which attracts ants. Cars left under basswood trees can often be covered by a thick syrupy sap called “honeydew,” which is the byproduct of ants when they “farm” the tree to collect the sap.

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Kentucky State Beekeepers Association Treasurer’s Report
November 9, 2014 – May 13, 2015

Beginning Balance ............................................................ $ 22,915.17

Income:
- Honey Booth ..................................... 6,633.00
- Dues (2015 Memberships-Fall meeting)......150.00
- Dues (2015 Memberships-Mail) ....... 3,043.00
Income Total ...................................................... 9,826.00

Expenses:
- Dadant — Door prizes, Fall meeting ....... 138.75
- Kelley’s — Door prizes, Fall meeting ...... 140.00
- Tammy Horn — Speaker’s Room ............ 124.75
- Bobbie Jo Mayes — Speaker Honorarium . 150.00
- Mark O’Rourke — Speaker Honorarium .. 150.00
- Elizabeth Forbes — Fall meeting, coffee and donuts .................................. 30.10
- First Christian Church — Memorial for Carol Marks ........................................... 75.00
- EKU Printing — Newsletter ..................... 573.50
- Allen County Beekeepers — Bee School Grant ................................ 405.00
- Calhoun and Company — Tangible Tax Resolution ......................... 45.00
- Capital City Beekeepers — Honey Princess Expense ........... 195.08
- Houk Insurance Agency — Bonding ...... 189.35
Total Expenses ...................................................... 2,298.78

Ending Balance ............................................................ $ 30,442.39

Checkbook shows balance of $30,805.15, a difference to the good of $362.76.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Hazelrigg, Treasurer

White House announces pollinator goals, strategy

The White House just released its pollinator strategy that includes:
- Reducing honey bee colony loss to no more than 15 percent in 10 years.
- Increasing monarch butterfly populations to 225 million by 2020.
- Restoring or enhancing 7 million acres of land for pollinators in the next five years.

New Research on American Foulbrood conducted at BYU

“This bacteria has been a problem in honeybees for a long time,” said Bryan Merrill, a microbiology student at Brigham Young University. “It infects the larva when they’re teeny tiny. Even a few spores will infect, and they’ll start eating the larva from the inside out. It doesn’t hurt the adult bees, but all of the sudden the bees can’t replenish the population, and the hive just collapses.”

When hives are infected, beekeepers generally treat their hives with antibiotics. However, this solution is usually only temporary. If bacteria return, they will most likely be antibiotics-resistant. From there, bee owners have the options to burn the hive or try phage treatment.

“Phage is a great alternative to antibiotics, and it’s a natural alternative because phages exist in nature on their own,” Burnett said. “The nature of a phage itself is that it’s self-replicating at the expense of the bacteria. It multiplies itself so there are more of them to hunt down the bacteria. Then as soon as the host is gone, the phage just disappears.”

Once they identify the perfect phage, Burnett, Merrill, and other students replicate it in the lab so it can be applied to the hive with a sugar-water solution. Like a virus, the phage get to work infecting the harmful bacteria until it is gone.


Report pesticide kills to EPA

To submit pesticide-related bee kill incidents to the Office of Pesticide Programs (a branch of the EPA), there are two easy options. Send incident reports in any format you wish as attachments to an email addressed to Robert Miller (Miller.Robert@epa.gov) or Tom Steeger (Steeger.Thomas@epa.gov). Or, submit pesticide-related bee incidents online at http://pi.ace.orst.edu/crep/ the Ecological Incident Reporting Portal website of the National Pesticide Information Center.
Call to Order

John Benham called the General Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with 36 persons in attendance.

Treasurer’s Report

Jim Hazelrigg presented the treasurer’s report. We had a beginning balance of $22,915.17. Total income for this period included honey booth and member dues totaling $9,826.00. Total expenses were $2,298.78. Current account balance as of May 13, 2015 is $30,442.39. Jim noted the current checkbook balance reflects a total of $30,805.15, a difference of $362.76. He continues to explore the source of this discrepancy but noted at least the bank shows us with a surplus. Ray Tucker made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report, Michele Boling seconded. The report was approved.

Announcements

John Benham announced dates and locations of Heartland and Eastern Apicultural Societies 2015 summer conferences.

KSBA membership cards have been printed and will be sent to local associations to be distributed to members.

New Business

A. John Benham reported to the membership that the Executive Committee met last night and discussed an Emergency Response plan in the event of a honey bee transport (semi truck) rollover. Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky State Apiarist, requested a small amount of money from KSBA to be allotted to a training workshop. Ted Caldwell made a motion that KSBA contribute $250 to this training, Victoria Atkinson seconded. The motion passed.

B. John Benham reported the U.S. would like to make a bid to bring the Apimondia – The International Federation of Beekeepers’ Associations 2019 conference to Minnesota. Ted Caldwell made a motion that KSBA contribute $200 to support the bid process, Michele Boling seconded. The motion passed.

C. Phil Craft is giving up his duties as webmaster for the KSBA website. John Benham will continue to explore options for website management. The hope is to update and expand the current KSBA website.

The KSBA Executive Committee also discussed some additional topics Friday May 15.

- KSBA would like to contribute to the bid to bring the Apimondia conference to Minnesota in 2019. Tammy Horn Potter made a motion that KSBA contribute $200 to the International Federation of Beekeepers’ Associations to support getting the bid. Jim Hazelrigg seconded. The motion passed.

- The search for a 2015 Kentucky State Fair Honey Booth Manager continues.

- Some discussion was had about the Lifetime Achievement Award.

- Expenses to cover the annual visit of the National Honey Queen were discussed. KSBA has an existing line item in the budget to cover these expenses. She attends the Bluegrass Beekeeping School and the State Fair Honey Booth. It is expected to cost about $500 for each of these events.

- The role of KSBA in the Kentucky Master Beekeeper Program was discussed. Tom Webster currently leads this program. Ideally KSBA would be more involved in promoting and managing this program. Further discussion will be held at a later date, with Tom Webster’s input.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH FORBES, KSBA Secretary
(edited by Tammy Horn Potter, newsletter writer)