# Northern Kentucky Beekeepers Association

**Monthly Meeting Notes**

## Tuesday March 6, 2018 – 6:30 pm

**Campbell County Extension Office**

**64 people in attendance**

1. **President’s report (Tom Spille)**
   1. Opened with Pledge of Allegiance.
   2. Welcomed 12 new 1st time visitors, and seven new individuals/families joined as members at the meeting.
   3. 2018 Election results, Taking office in March,

President- Tom Spille

Vice President- Rhonda Hampton

Treasurer - welcome back Tonia Spille; thank you again Anna for many years of service in various capacities as an Officer.

Secretary- John Meier

Member at Large- Carl Knochelmann

1. We currently have 75 people registered for the intermediate bee school 201. (Note: final count of attendees was 71).
2. Our educational topic tonight is catching swarms; capture boxes; swarm baits. Members Ron and Joanna Zembrodt
3. **Vice President's Report (Rhonda Hampton)**
4. Beekeeping 201 is MARCH 10 and is posted on FB & website. Help spread the word – we have flyers for BK 201 – please post around (workplace, libraries, coffee shops, etc).
5. Distributed signup sheets to help at registration desk, bring dessert, etc. for our Intermediate Beekeeping School. Ten people signed up to help out. Thanks so much!
6. We are also looking for volunteers to help with stations at the upcoming Field Day/Hive visit on June 5; especially looking for someone to coordinate this event.
7. One of our new members – Mary Ann Schultz – is now bringing snacks and refreshments for our Campbell County Meetings. Be sure to thank Mary Ann!
8. **Treasurer's Report (Anna Gurley** – filling in for Tonia Spille tonight**)**
9. 2018 dues are $10 per family/household and can be paid by cash or check (to NKYBA) at the break or by mail. Membership is Jan. to Dec. Membership in the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association (KSBA) is $15/year and can also be paid through our club.
10. We have 88 paid members/families as of the March meeting, already surpassing the total from last year.
11. We had $4,521 in our treasury before the meeting, including $415 from the raffle at the Beginning Beekeeper School.
12. I ordered a new Educational Kit which was demonstrated at the Beginner Bee School and can be used by members for community/school presentations. Come take a look at the break. There is also a DVD with slides to go along with it for a presentation. We also ordered a new NKYBA banner.
13. **Secretary's Report (John Meier)**
14. Don’t forget to sign in and check the sign-in sheet for accuracy. Also indicate whether you want to be on swarm list and for which counties. If you’re not getting club correspondence, verify that your email address is correct.
15. You have to be a member by the April meeting to borrow the extractors and the test kits for American and European Foulbrood. Soon we’ll also have oxalic acid vaporizers to borrow (see “new business” below. To get on the swarm list (which is finalized at the April meeting), you need to have attended at least 3 meetings (bee schools count also) in the previous 12 months. (To simplify tracking this, we've agreed to include all 12 months in previous calendar year as well as any months up to and including April in new calendar year). The swarm list and mentor lists are posted on the homepage of our website. Meeting notes can be found on the website as well.
16. Need volunteer speakers on Beekeeping Topic for Bookfest 2018. The event is April 27 at NKU. Sessions usually start at about 9:45 and last 45 minutes. Students will be in grades 5 and 6 and should have read “Hour of the Bees”. Would like to have 2 people willing to present, each can do 2 back-to-back sessions. There is an overhead projector that you can use with a computer or device. Rhonda Hampton and John Kerr have volunteered to take this on. Kudos to both of you! Let us know how it goes.
17. **Committee reports** 
    1. **Club equipment (Carl Knochelmann)**: We have 2 honey extractor sets and American Foul Brood (AFB) Detection Kits. With our growing membership, we may need to consider a third unit at some point. We will also be ordering new metal filters - they hold up better than the plastic ones & are easier to clean**.** We will be ordering 2 new oxalic acid vaporizers plus batteries for use for treatment of Varroa mites for use by club members (see new business below).

**b. Introduction to Beekeeping 101:** Beekeeping 101 was held on FEB 17, we had 135 in attendance. There were 4 vendors who displayed their wares and services as well. The new training materials were also demonstrated at the school.

**c. Intermediate Beekeeping 201 School:**

The school is scheduled for Saturday March 10th from 9 am to 4:30 with Phil Craft as the speaker. Check in begins at 8:30 Cost is $15 for members, $20 for non-members. $5 for children 12 and under. Includes lunch with Q&A during lunch. Located at the Boone Cty. Enrichment Center lower level. We’ve applied for a Bee School Sponsor grant through the KY Dept. of Agriculture to receive $100 towards a KY Proud lunch.

**d. Field Day committee:** June 5: Boone County: **Field Event and Hive visit** - Boone Extension Nature Center. Need an NKYBA member to coordinate the event and members to teach at “Stations”

**e. Community Outreach report**: Looking for someone to be a task leader for speaking and presentation requests. We would forward all requests to this person and they can coordinate as needed with speakers and those requesting presentations.

1. **Old Business**

**a**. The web site host had a glitch reported at last month's meeting. Rhonda called GoDaddy and they got it resolved. Please let one of the Board members know if you notice any problems in the future.

**b.** Duke Energy may be considering incorporating pollinator habitat into its solar panel farms. The grant application may be a first step in getting such an alliance started if NKYBA would want to consider such a partnership. The big advantage with a bee association partnering with a solar panel farm may be that the association can have a local place to have bee hives and at the same time, have that area protected. Pete Montoure has expressed an interest in this Pete Montoure is our contact for heading up this effort and has reached out to the appropriate individuals for follow-up. No word back yet. Keep us posted Pete. Any others interested?

**c.** We have an invite for someone to speak on a B105 radio program morning show "Around The House" with Tony Ruttencutter (513-749-B105) to talk about how lawn treatments, etc. effect our bees. John Kerr has agreed to do it and has contacted the station and will let us know more details when it gets scheduled so we can listen in.

d. Anna purchased a new table sign which was used for our bee school and for future events.

1. **New Business:**

* May 20 is World Bee Day
* Robert Simon suggested we purchase a device for oxalic acid treatment. Although the Board decided against this previously because of liability issues, we have reconsidered and have decided to order two of the vaporizers and required batteries. Individual members will have to sign a waiver to use and will have to purchase their own oxalic acid and personal protective equipment (respirator and gloves). We recommend purchasing the oxalic acid from a beekeeping supplier, such as Dadants or Kelley’s – quite inexpensive. We will demonstrate how the vaporizer works at a future meeting. The model we’re ordering has an on/off switch and indicator light that tells when the cycle is complete (2 min).

1. **Good and Welfare:** Rhonda asked how many members are ordering bees for the first time this year. Then asked how many have all the hive boxes, equipment, etc that they’ll need (not as many). It’s not too late, but she emphasized the importance of having everything ready when you get your bees.
2. **Educational discussion:** Members **Ron and Joanna Zembrodt** gave a demonstration of a capture box they use to catch swarms. They discussed the ins and outs of how to use, including the use of swarm baits. Thanks to both for a very informative presentation.
3. **Adjournment –** Next Meeting is **Tuesday, April 3**, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the Boone County Extension Office Enrichment Center-Project Room (upstairs). (Not the main Office building). Enter off the side by the farmer's market. For GPS, use 1824 Patrick Dr., Burlington, KY 41005. The topic is: Different types of pollinating plants/trees. **Gina Ligon** from the Boone County ExtensionOffice will be presenting.

**2018 Calendar:**

**\*Meetings held on 1st Tuesday of the month unless noted and schedule/topics subject to change**

* Jan 2: Campbell County: Board nominations & Bee School planning session, KSBA, bee order information, mentor program, web site info, Facebook, Schedule for 2018
* Feb 6: Boone County: Elections & Bees- Elections. Installing a Package of Bees, and Speaker on Nuc Management, construction and using nucs as an emergency hive. Speaker is Dan Gottmann of Danny G’s Honey Bees.
* Feb 17 Saturday: Boone County Enrichment Center: Lower Level, Annual Free Bee School “**Introduction to Beekeeping 101”**,9 to 2
* March 6: Campbell County - catching swarms; capture boxes; swarm baits. Members **Ron and Joanna Zembrodt** will be presenting.
* March 10: **Intermediate Beekeeping 201**, Boone County Enrichment Center, lower level. Phil Craft is presenter.
* April 3: **Boone County Enrichment Center-Project Room upstairs**: Different types of pollinating plants/trees **Gina Ligon** from **Boone County Extension Office**
* May 1: Campbell County: **Dr. Tammy Potter, KY State Apiarist**will speak on bee issues in KY.
* June 5: Boone County: **Field Event and Hive visit**- Boone Extension Nature Center NKYBA members to teach “Stations”
* July 10: meeting at “School House Bees” - **Ron Spille**, topic Q&A on general beekeeping and tour
* August 7: Boone County: **Guest Speaker Keith Crigger of Crigger Honey**
* September 4: Campbell County: **Winterizing Your Hive and Varroa Mite treatment Phil Craft** is the speaker
* October 2: Boone County Extension Center: Harvest Social - Harvest Social and discussion. Discuss experiences with wax processing. Club furnishing simple meal (chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, drinks, plates, etc). Members can bring something to share, side or dessert, but not req’d.

Please support our association, NKYBA dues $10/family/year; KSBA membership is $15 per year per family. Please support our association and the state association by joining both when you re-new your membership with NKY beekeepers assoc. We will send down your state membership information as a group. All memberships in the KSBA run from January 1 to December 31 each year.

useful web site link:

<http://www.kyagr.com/statevet/honeybees.html#!prettyPhoto/1/>

For current and past newsletters, click on “Kentucky Beekeepers Newsletter”, a pop up box lists current and past issues, just click which one you want.