# Northern Kentucky Bee Keepers Association

**MONTHLY MEETING Notes**

## Tuesday March 7, 2017 – 6:30pm

**Location: Campbell County Extension Office**

**46 in attendance**

1. **President’s Report**—

a. Welcomed ten first time visitors.

b. Introduced officers elected for 2017 : current officers starting tonight are:

* President- Tom Spille
* Vice President- Rhonda Hampton
* Treasurer- Anna Gurley
* Secretary- new to the board is John Meier
* Member at Large- Carl Knochelmann

c. We have purchased name tags to help us to get to know one another better and will start using these at the next meeting (Tues., April 4, Boone County Extension Office). The sign-in sheet & name tags will be near the door as you enter the meeting.

d. Just a FYI, I found a new supplier of bees and nucs, The Honey and Bee Connection**.** If anyone needs bees, he has 1200 packages on order for April. 3# pkg for $98, 5 frame nuc for $150.

<http://www.thehoneyandbeeconnection.com>

1. **Vice-President’s Report**-

Janice Shepherd, Adult Programming Librarian, Erlanger Branch, Kenton County Public Library asked for a speaker. Rhonda and John have agreed to talk on July 6 at 6 pm on the importance of honeybees and other pollinators and on beekeeping basics. Other members are encouraged to come and help spread the word, and share their experiences.

1. **Treasurer's Report**—

Currently there’s $2668 in Treasury, with additional money expected from the KSBA for attendees ($2/person) at the two bee schools. The raffle for the two assembled and painted hives brought in over $600. A huge thanks to member Dan Gottman of Danny G’s Honey Bees in Alexandria (dannyghoneybees.com) and to Jim Coss of the Honey and Bee Connection in Morehead (item 1d above), for donating the two hives.

We now have 69 paid members/families as of the March meeting. 9 people renewed their membership and 6 new members joined at the meeting. 21 new members joined at the bee school.

We moved our checking account to Huntington Bank for better service and received rewards.

2017 dues are $10 per family/household. Active member benefits include use of club extractors, American Foul Brood Detection Kit, and inclusion in our swarm list. Membership is Jan. to Dec.

Ky State Beekeepers Association. Reminder of membership - $15 per family per year. Currently we have 10 members who are also members of the KSBA. Member benefits include entry to the KSBA spring, summer, and fall meetings, subscription to the Bee Line, KSBA’s official newsletter, and opportunity to sell honey or beeswax through the Honey Booth at the Kentucky State Fair, among others.

1. **Secretary’s Report**—

The meeting sign-in sheet and email lists have been updated with all our new members. Be sure to check accuracy of contact information when you sign in at meetings so you don’t miss out on club correspondence. If you’re on the swarm list or wish to be, let me know along with counties where you’re willing to go to pick up swarms in this area. The swarm list has recently been updated and appears on our club website at bottom of our home page **(www.nkybeekeepers.com).** **Important Reminder:** You must be a member and must have attended at least one meeting in 2017 by the **April 4 meeting** in order to use the club extractor at no charge and to be eligible to be on the swarm list.

**Southern States Cooperative in Alexandria** asked me about our club presenting a talk on beekeeping geared towards novices. Southern States started selling beekeeping supplies about a year ago and I think they are hoping to generate interest. Rhonda and I are presenting a “We need Bees/Basics of Beekeeping” talk. If any of you are available on **Monday, April 3 at 6 pm**, we’d love to have you join us to help answer questions and share your beekeeping experience. The talk will be in their store.

1. **Miscellaneous Reports:**

**a. Extractor status:** Carl reported that both extractors are currently available.

**b.** An **American Foul Brood (AFB) Detection Kit** was purchased for readily available member access. Testing takes only a few minutes. If you suspect you have an infestation, please contact Carl ASAP to use the kit. The kit will be replaced and the user will reimburse the association approximately $14. We are not aware of AFB (a devastating bacterial hive infection) being detected in the Northern Kentucky area, but a case has been reported in Lexington so we should be prepared and ready to help prevent the spread.

**c. Beyond Beekeeping School, Saturday, April 29th, 9:00 to 4:30, check in begins at 8:30**

Phil Craft is the speaker. Cost is $15 for members, $20 for non-members. $5 for children 12 and under. Includes lunch with Q&A during lunch. We're raffling off a hive & nuc at the school. The school will be held at the Boone County Extension Enrichment Center lower level. Please help us make this a successful school. The registration form and flyer are attached to the email with these notes. . Remember to register/postmark by 4/22 to get $15 member price & LUNCH! (Otherwise it's $25 & you’ll need to bring a brown bag lunch).

If you’d like to help with the details for the school, such as sign-in, picking up food, door prizes and raffle, making cookies, let us know. We definitely could use help with posting the school flyers at local businesses, libraries, etc. Also "share" the event on our Facebook page with your FB friends.

1. **Old Business**
   1. Beginner Bee School was a huge success. 120 in attendance, up from about 75 last year and 60 the year before that. We also compiled a lot of lessons learned and ideas for improvement for our Beginning Beekeeping school and will use these to make it even better next year.

* 1. **July 11: Boone County: Field Event and Hive visit**. This event was moved back a week from our normal meeting time due to 4th of July holiday. We need to start a committee for this event to create a plan for the stations to ensure plenty of hands on opportunities and great experiences. Bring your bee suits if you want to get up close and personal with the bees.

1. **New Business**
   1. The Kenton County Extension is having the upcoming Farmer’s Fare being held on Thursday March 30, 2017 from 4 to 8pm, at the Edgewood Senior Center.  For details and an application to participate, see the letter, flyer, and application that are attached to these notes.  It’s free to have a table, you can sell your products and we can have an information booth if we want.
   2. Keith Crigger of Crigger Honey will be presenting at our June 6th meeting. Ideas for his talk included: How to increase honey production, Mite Counts, and Preventing Swarming.
   3. Special thanks to member Kyle Neltner for stepping up to manage the club’s Facebook page (found at nky beekeepers association).
2. **Good and welfare -**
   1. **Bluegrass Beekeeping School** will be held at Kentucky State University on March 11. Registration at the door starts at 8:00 ET with the opening session starting at 9:00. The classes will conclude at 3:30.

Registration at the door will be $35 per adult or $15 for high school and younger.

b. **KSBA Spring Meeting** Saturday, Mar 18, 2017 at the Boyd County Fairground, 1760 Addington Rd, Ashland, KY 41102 Registration at the door starts at 8:00 ET with the opening session starting at 9:00. It will last till maybe by 3 o'clock. No cost unless you rent a room for the night, and if you do, just let them know that you're part of the meeting and they will give you a discount. If you would email this address and let them know that you will be attending and how many people will be with you so that they can get an accurate number on how much food they will need to serve.  Purebarrenriverhoney@gmail.com

1. **Training Presentation by Mike Janicki.** Mike went through the essentials of hive installation with package bees. He went through some of the pros and cons of nucs vs package bees for starting your hive and fielded many questions. Certainly an informative and at times humorous presentation that kept all our interest. Thanks to Mike for a job well done!

The next meeting will be April 4, at the Boone County Extension Office.

**2017 Calendar: Meetings held on 1st Tuesday of the month unless noted and schedule/topics subject to change**

* Jan 3: Campbell County: Elections & Bee School planning session, KSBA, bee order information
* Feb 7: Boone County: Elections & Bees- Where & how to get them to start a hive, different types of bees, queen breeders, led by Member at Large- **Carl Knochelmann**
* Feb 25 Saturday: **Boone County Extension Office: Annual Bee School**
* March 7: Campbell County: Hive Installation/different types of hives (Langstroth, top bar hive, etc.) and location/placement of hive led by member **Mike Janicki**.
* April 4: Boone County: Different types of pollinating plants/trees **Gina Ligon** from **Boone County Extension**
* **April 29: Beyond Beekeeping School, Boone County Enrichment Center, lower level**
* May 2: Campbell County: **Dr. Tammy Horn, KY State Apiarist** come and speak on bee issues in KY
* June 6: Boone County: **Guest Speaker is Keith Crigger of Crigger Honey**
* July 11: Boone County: Field Event and Hive visit- Date/Location Nature Center, weather dependant
* August 1: Campbell County: Have a beginner share their experience as a new bee keeper, Video and General Q/ A
* September 5: Campbell County: Guest Speaker or video and Winterizing Your Hive
* October 3: Boone County Extension Center: Harvest Social - "year in review", bring an appetizer to share! Association will provide drinks

**We would like to thank our bee school supporters:**

**Danny G's Honey Bees 513-383-5902** [www.dannygshoneybees.com](http://www.dannygshoneybees.com/)

**The Honey and Bee Connection 606-784-3108** <http://www.thehoneyandbeeconnection.com>

**Dadant Frankfort 502-848-0000, 888.932.3268 www.dadant.com**

**Kelley Beekeeping Clarkson, KY 1-800-233-2899 www.kelleybees.com**

**School House Bees (Spille Honey) Morning View 859-356-7376 www.schoolhousebees.com**

**Brushy Mountain www.brushymountainbeefarm.com**

**Mann Lake www.mannlakeltd.com**

**John Kerr – association member**

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