# Northern Kentucky Bee Keepers Association

**Monthly Meeting Notes**

## Tuesday May 2, 2017 – 6:30pm

**Campbell County Extension Office**

**41 people in attendance**

1. **President’s report (Tom Spille)**
   1. Welcomed several 1st time visitors.
   2. Tonight's topic is “Current Beekeeping Issues in Kentucky with emphasis on the Veterinary Feed Directive“ by Tammy Potter
   3. The **Beyond Beekeeping School**, originally scheduled for Saturday, April 29th had to be postponed due to a personal emergency by our speaker, Phil Craft. Our tentative reschedule date is Saturday, June 3, but we’re awaiting confirmation from Phil before we make that definite. We’ll get out the word as soon as it’s definite.
   4. Rhonda Hampton and Carl Knochelmann appeared on FOX 19 now morning show and represented our club well. We have one of our newest members, Alex Tittle, to thank for the opportunity for Rhonda and Carl to speak and spread the word about our club. Alex is the weekend morning producer at FOX19 Now.
   5. We received a check for $360 from the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association for 120 attendees ($3/person) at our Beginning Beekeeping School in February. We received this as a benefit of the association members and board joining the KSBA.
   6. Tom caught a swarm today and used it to set up a second hive to visit during our club’s field event/hive visit meeting on July 11 (see more details below).
2. **Vice-President’s report (Rhonda Hampton)**
   1. There have been lots of bee swarms reported lately and Rhonda took a quick poll of members at the meeting who have caught swarms. It appeared there were at least 7 or 8, several people having caught multiple swarms.
   2. Rhonda also talked about the upcoming Hive Visit day. Rhonda has a signup sheet for the stations. Please sign-up to help out.
3. **Treasurer’s Report (information provided by Tom Spille and John Meier; Anna Gurley absent)**
   1. We had 76 paid members as of the April meeting. After sign-ups at this meeting, we now have 82 members, including 3 new members/families. We welcome our new members – **Tom and Terri Studer, Chris Redden, and our KY State Apiarist, Tammy Potter.**
   2. We currently have approximately $3261 in our treasury.
4. **Secretary’s Report (John Meier)**
   1. Emphasized the importance of signing in and checking contact information for accuracy. Members paid as of April meeting are eligible to borrow the club extractor this year at no charge. The swarm list is now finalized for 2017, per our by-laws.
5. **Committee Reports**
   1. **Club Extractors**: Both extractors are available. **(see Carl Knockelmann to borrow)**
   2. **American Foul Brood Detection Kit** is also now available. **(see Carl Knockelmann to borrow). Note:** we will likely be purchasing a second American Foulbrood detection kit for confirmation purposes, as well as a separate European Foulbrood Detection Kit.
   3. **July 11: Boone County: Field Event and Hive visit.**

Need some volunteers for this event to ensure plenty of hands-on opportunities and great experiences at 6 stations. We would like 2 people per station and a Lead for Station 5.

Station 1, Bees 101, Why bees are important, Queen, worker, drone, Egg, larvae, pupae, lifecycle of bees. Lead – Rhonda Hampton

Station 2, Tools and Equipment, Basic equipment, Protective gear, Deep, Med, Shallows, Choosing hive location, How to light smoker. Lead – John Kerr

Station 3, Bees, Where to get them, Package vs Nuc, How to install pkg, Feeding. Lead – Kyle Neltner (tentative)

Station 4, Live demo of opening hive, Identifying brood, etc --- Stacie Meyer

Station 5, Major Pests & Diseases & how to deal w them, SHB, VM, Wax moths. Lead -- ?

Station 6, Harvesting honey! "Demo" of equipment & technique. Honey samples. Lead – Carl Knocklemann

1. **Old Business** – None discussed
2. **New Business** – None discussed
3. **Adjournment:** The next meeting will be June 6 at the Boone County Extension Center. **Guest Speaker is Keith Crigger of Crigger Honey**
4. **The educational presentation** for the meeting was given by KY State Apiarist, Dr. Tammy Potter. Tammy covered a broad range of issues of interest to beekeepers in Kentucky, including issues affecting urban beekeepers, the USDA Youth Microloan Program for young beekeepers, the new Veterinary Feed Directive, & 2 uncommon (but serious) bee diseases (American Foul Brood/AFB & European Foul Brood/EFB). She also stressed the importance of testing hives now for Varroa Mites (VM) & taking action if levels exceed 3 mites per 100 bees. Since many beekeepers have added honey supers by now, if mite levels are above the threshold of 3/100, she recommends treating with formic acid (such as Mite Away Quick Strips). Great info (short videos) on sampling & different treatments for VM were recently developed by the Honey Bee Health Coalition & are posted on our club website: [www.nkybeepeekers.com](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nkybeepeekers.com%2F&h=ATOdQaMzGuhLCUHLqO_f6FnvCpJ8Z3hXyqWd8f6tCbJAaZ3jtM2U6jy00sLAgoX-m9zMsMRmbCxUSVnw9sgKxOE5gNpcBRgUW-l7fOYrMeymqQdfu5Qch8aJ1ez4DMUxW1fm_htoqZZiIhZ_gA&enc=AZN8aH5NGepiYPMypWWFyg4tUFXIDZBualJnVVs-lvjucYCiO3DrnlloA2v_HRhMS-QuEJZW9s4GhDbY6KlWwH__Rpnh_zbDndQfHYu5hKAvurJV2cjMe26rnCukSUc5TcL3iS--F1FoRUNOIdJPEDXwy9GT1y5nlgovr7RpRg-Uje5FOgMg6n48GMWuKPOwQMHiJ6WV9ama1q3uraAT3ZEU&s=1) under "Learning Center Videos".   She recommended having an "emergency or first-aid nuc", one for every 5 hives...an emergency nuc can address almost all hive problems (queenlessness, starvation, sick hive w chalk brood, sac brood, European foul brood). The emergency nuc is combined with the weak hive. She also talked about pesticide use in connection to mosquito spraying for Zika virus transmission and pesticide misuse complaints. A communication tool has been developed by the KY Pollinator Protection Plan for use by pesticide applicators.

We're happy that so many members were in attendance & we'd like to thank Dr. Potter for sharing all this important info. We're also honored that she joined NKYBA - so one of our members is the KY STATE APIARIST, awesome! If you need to contact Tammy, her new email address is [tammy.potter@ky.gov](mailto:tammy.potter@ky.gov)

**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, Carl Knochelmann
* Feb 25: Saturday: Boone County Extension Center: Annual Bee School
* March 7: Campbell County: Hive Installation/different types of hives (Langstroth, top bar hive, etc.) and location/placement of hive, Mike Janicki
* April 4: Boone County: Different types of pollinating plants/trees **Gina Ligon** from **Boone County Extension**
* May 2: Campbell County: **Dr. Tammy Horn, KY State Apiarist** come and speak on bee issues in KY
* June 3: Tentative date for Beyond Beginning Beekeeping School with Phil Craft at Boone County Enrichment Center
* June 6: Boone County: **Guest Speaker 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 on Varoa mite sampling and VM test kit prep, 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