

NEBRASKA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.nebraskabeekeepers.org



January Beeline 2010

2009 Board of Directors

President:

Mike Slater,
118 Robinhood Ave.
Plattsmouth, NE 68048,
Ph.402-212-7190

Vice President:

Cheryl Osterloh,
7519 N 285 Ave Circle
Valley, NE 68064
cheryl.osterloh@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Warren Nelson,
2839 N 46th,
Lincoln, NE. 68504,
Ph. 402-466-8173

Secretary:

Joann Vasko,
13324 Madison,
Omaha, NE 68137,
Ph. 402-895-3766

Program Director:

Mike Bush,
8201 214th St,
Greenwood, NE 68366-2303,
Ph. 402-786-5841,

Newsletter Editor:

Keith Nielson,
865 Leonard Ave,
Polk, NE 68654, Ph. 402-765-2391,
kl Nielson@windstream.net

Business Advertising Rates

Full page:

Yearly-\$1200
Six months-\$720
Monthly-\$120

Half Page

Yearly-\$600
Six months-\$360
Monthly-\$60

Quarter page

Yearly-\$300
Six months-\$180
Monthly-\$30

Business card

Yearly-\$150
Six months-\$90
Monthly-\$15

Classified ads by members free.

All ad material needed print ready by 20th of each month. If purchasing ad for full year ad layout can be changed each issue before the 20th of the month. Acceptable formats PDF, Microsoft Office Word, JPEG, TIFF. All ads must be paid for before they are run. Issues of the newsletter are posted on our association web site @ www.nebraskabeekeepers.org For more information contact the editor.

Secretary's Corner:

The Nebraska Beekeepers met December 12 at the Gretna Public Library at 10 am. President Mike Slater called to order a very short business meeting. Craig Romary from the Department of Agriculture gave a program on sensitive crop registration. Sensitive crops are grapes, orchards, bees etc. Any crop bothered by spraying crops. There is a pesticide sensitive crop locator on the internet. You can sign on if you'd like to be registered at <http://www.agr.ne.gov/division/bpi/pes/psci.htm> . If you feel you have damage inspectors will come and evaluate the damage. However he said if you are afraid of theft etc. Don't register as you have to give the location of your hives, etc. Thank you Craig for the thorough program.

Our next meeting will be Sunday Jan. 17 at Chances "R" in York. This is a restaurant so you have to register to Keith Nielson By Jan. 3 so he knows how many are coming. It's at 1pm & Keith's phone number is 402-765-2391. Scholarship winners from last year will be giving presentations & there will be election of officers. Also the beekeeper of the year will be presented

To a busy beekeeper. It should be a fun filled day. See you there.

Joann Vasko Secretary

Annual Meeting at Chances "R" in York will have honey used in part of the preparation of the meal. Meal price is under \$15.00. Please RSVP to Keith Nielson with the number of people attending the annual meeting. You can RSVP by e-mail kl Nielson@windstream.net or phone 402-765-2391 and leave a message. Revised Please RSVP date by JANUARY 13, 2010.

Officer Position Openings for 2010:

All positions will be elected at the January 17 meeting.

Our Secretary Joann Vasko has decided to let some else take the reigns as secretary. Joann has been the secretary shortly after joining the association. Thanks for all you and Rudy have done for the association.

Our current Program Director, Mike Bush has taken a temporary duty assignment overseas for a year. Mike has been the Program Director for a number of years. Thanks Mike for your service to the organization.

Officer positions need to be filled with a member that is willing to commit some time and effort into their organization. Much of the work that is done by the officers is via phone or e-mail. Being on the Executive Board will give you perspective into the workings of the association and the Nebraska State Fair. Your work as an officer will be a rewarding and challenging experience that will be appreciated by your fellow members.

Classified Advertisements

For Sale:

Available bulk honey for more information contact Pat Chandler 308-880-1733 or e-mail Chandlers Sandhill Honey chandlercloverhoney@yahoo.com

Screened bottom boards complete with board to calculate mite populations, total clear screened opening below brood chambers and 3/8 inch opening to prevent mice getting into your hive. Contact Keith Nielson, phone 402-765-2391 cell after 4PM 308-940-0987 or email knielson@windstream.net.

Upcoming Events:

January 12-16, 2010: North American Beekeeping Conference, Wyndham Orlando Resort, Orlando FL. Hosted by ABF

January 17, 2010: Annual Meeting 1:00 - 4:00PM at Chances "R", 124 West Street, York, NE 68467. Topic of the meeting will be presentation of annual awards and scholarship presentations by scholarship winners. Meal Price under \$15.00 RSVP by January 3, 2010 to Keith Nielson, , knielson@windstream.net or ph 402-765-2391.

February 13, 2010: Monthly Meeting, Gretna Public Library, 736 South St Gretna, NE. Presenter Dr. Marion Ellis

February 14, 2010: 1:00PM Beginning Beekeepers and Beekeeper Scholarship Equipment Workshop Part 1. Location: High Plains Community School Ag Shop east of the High School Building at 345 S. Pine Street, Polk NE. All beekeepers are welcomed to attend. Topic will be assembling of a hive bodies and frames. Presenter Keith Nielson

February 27, 2010: 9:00AM-5:00PM, Beginning Beekeeper Workshop, Adams County Extension Office, 300 North Joeseeph Ave., Hastings, NE, Presenter; Dr. Marion Ellis

March 7, 2010: Beginning Beekeepers and Beekeeper Scholarship Equipment Workshop Part 2. Location: High Plains Community School Ag Shop east of the High School Building at 345 S. Pine Street, Polk NE. All beekeepers are welcomed to attend. Topic will be assembling of a hive bodies and frames. Presenter Keith Nielson

March 14, 2010: 9:00AM-5:00PM, Beginning Beekeeper Workshop, Kimmel Education Center, 5985 Rd G, Nebraska City, NE. Presenter; Dr. Marion Ellis

April 17, 2010: 10:00AM-2:00PM Beginning Beekeeping Field Day, Agricultural Research and Development Center, 1071 County Road B, Ithica, NE. Presenter Dr. Marion Ellis and others

May: Monthly Meeting, TBA

June 10-12, 2010: Master Beekeeping Workshop, Agricultural Research and Development Center, 1071 County Road B, Ithica, NE. Presenter Dr. Marion Ellis and others

July 2010: Monthly Meeting, TBA

July 2010: Heartland Apiculture Society Annual Conference, location Tennessee TBA

August 2-6, 2010: Eastern Apiculture Society Annual Conference, location Boone, North Carolina

August 26, 2010: Bee Culture Entries due for Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE

August 27-September 6, 2010: Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE

August 30 -September 2, 2010: Western Apiculture Society Annual Conference, location Red Lion Hotel, Salem, Oregon

September 12, 2010: So You Want to Know About Honey Bees, location near Chapman, NE, presenter Keith Nielson

October:

November 20, 2010: Monthly Meeting at Agricultural Research and Development Center, 1071 County Road B, Ithica., Presenters Kirk Webster, Dr. Marion Ellis and UNL graduate students

For the good of the association

Please welcome the following new members to the association: Gary Schultz of Ceresco and Thomas Krakow of Fairbury,

RENEWAL TIME NOTICE

Dues to the Nebraska Beekeepers Association are \$1.00 per month.

The yearly membership runs January 1 through December 31. If you are joining at any other time than January, please only pay for the remaining months of the year. Also, the \$12.00 membership is for one person. We do not have a family rate so only list one person per dues amount. Thank you for your help in this matter.

A registration table will be set up at the annual meeting on Jan 17th to pay your yearly dues. Also we are trying to be Eco-friendly by delivering the newsletter via e-mail to reduce paper cost. Members who receive their newsletter via e-mail receive it at least 2 days earlier than those by United States Postal Service.

Letters to the Editor

I've just accepted a temporary assignment overseas for the next year and will not be available. Does anyone know of a good candidate for Program Coordinator?

Also, FYI, I had asked Kirk Webster if he would come speak to our club when I was staying at his house this last fall and he graciously agreed. Marion, Kirk Webster and I have been planning an all day conference at the center in Mead for the 20th of November as our November meeting. Kirk and several of Dr. Ellis's students would alternate with Kirk giving three presentations. Probably on Raising queens, wintering nucs etc. Kirk is a very successful and intelligent beekeeper who has much to share. Any input on this plan is welcome. In the past we have paid the speaker's way and given them an honorarium which has been about \$200.

I also need to find someone who would like to have Kirk stay with them. He says he does not like to stay in a hotel and wants the fellowship of another beekeeper. He will probably stay an extra day to visit. If anyone is interested or knows someone who would be interested in having Kirk as a guest for a couple of days, please let me know. I would, but I won't be here.

Michael Bush

Treasurers Reports

December

27,257.78		Beginning Balance 11/27/09
	12.00	Jones - Dues
	36.00	Johnson - Dues
	24.00	Gowen - Dues
	12.00	Schultz - Dues
	12.00	Hankel - Dues
	12.00	Krakow - dues
	1.96	Interest
109.96		Total Income
		No Expenses
27,367.74		Ending Balance 12/28/09

Nebraska Bee Trading Cards

The Nebraska Beekeepers have honey bee trading cards that can be sent to a school classroom if the instructor sends a letter to Warren Nelson on school stationery with the number of students in the class and the beekeeper that is presenting to the class. Bee trading cards that are sent out will require a \$5.00 shipping charge. For more information on the trading cards you can find it on the world wide web at

<http://entomology.unl.edu/beekpg/beecards/beecards.htm> .

Nebraska Beekeepers Association Membership and Membership Renewal Form

Please fill out the following information completely and legibly by printing the information

NEW MEMBER [] RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP [] 1 YR @ \$12 [] 2YR @ \$24[]

DATE _____

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

County: _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Please send my newsletters by e-mail. Please send my newsletter by the postal service.

Make checks payable to the “Nebraska Beekeepers Association”

Mail to: Warren Nelson, 2839 N46th, Lincoln, NE 68504

* Dues are payable by January 31 for the current year running from January 1- December 31. *

** Dues are prorated for new members only at the rate of \$1 per month through December 31. **

*** Special rates on “Bee Culture” and “American Bee Journal” with membership to the state association.***



2 Hives nearly covered by the Christmas snowstorm in Polk Nebraska




1 Snow packed beehive after the Christmas Blizzard "09" in Polk, Nebraska

Please clip the magazine form and mail your subscription directly to the address listed on the form. It causes delays by paying the Association and having us send it for you. Make sure you fill in the Nebraska Beekeepers Association on the appropriate line and Warren Nelson as Treasurer on the Secretary line. Your help is greatly appreciated

		<h2 style="margin: 0;">ASSOCIATION MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Bee Culture Magazine</h3>	
Please Print Clearly			
Association _____	Secretary's Name _____		
Subscriber's Name _____	Address _____		
Address _____	City _____		
City _____	State, Zip _____		
State, Zip _____	Comments _____		
Phone # _____	For Office Use Only Acct. # _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW	<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr. - \$21.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yr. - \$38.00
			Canada – add \$15.00 per year All other foreign add \$20/year
Return white copy to: Bee Culture, Subscription Dept., P.O. Box 706, Medina, OH 44258 *Please discard any other forms. Use only this form.* Prices subject to change without notice.			

Please clip the magazine form and mail your subscription directly to the address listed on the form. It causes delays by paying the Association and having us send it for you. Make sure you fill in the Nebraska Beekeepers Association on the appropriate line and Warren Nelson as Treasurer on the Secretary line. Your help is greatly appreciated.

		<h2 style="margin: 0;">ASSOCIATION MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION</h2>		SAVE 25%
Association <u>Nebraska Beekeepers Assn.</u>	Treasurer's Secretary's Name <u>Warren Nelson</u>			
Subscriber's Name _____	Address <u>2839 N 46 St.</u>			
Address _____	City <u>Lincoln</u>			
City _____	State, Zip <u>NE 68504</u>			
State, Zip _____	Phone <u>402-466-8173</u>			
Phone _____	U.S.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr. - \$19.50	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yr. - \$37.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yr. - \$52.15
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW	<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL	Canada	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr. - \$24.50	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yr. - \$47.00
(PRICES GOOD THROUGH DEC. 31, 2010)		Foreign	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr. - \$37.50	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yr. - \$73.00
			<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yr. - \$106.15	
Return white copy to: American Bee Journal, 51 S. 2nd St., Hamilton, IL 62341				Retain yellow copy for your records.

From Catch the Buzz-

NEW YORK (December 29, 2009) – A pesticide that could be dangerously toxic to America’s honey bees must be pulled from store shelves as a result of a suit filed by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and the Xerces Society. In an order issued last week, a federal court in New York invalidated EPA’s approval of the pesticide spirotetramat (manufactured by Bayer CropScience under the trade names Movento and Ultor) and ordered the agency to reevaluate the chemical in compliance with the law. The court’s order goes into effect on January 15, 2010, and makes future sales of Movento illegal in the United States. And, the reaction, from Bloomberg News... <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601100&sid=awNvfcIKf4AY>
Bayer ‘Disappointed’ in Ruling on Chemical That May Harm Bees

By Alan Bjerga

Dec. 29 (Bloomberg) -- A Bayer AG unit is “disappointed” by a U.S. Judge’s ruling that may prevent distribution of its spirotetramat insecticide, a spokesman said. Environmental groups say the chemical causes harm to honey bees.

U.S. District Court Judge Denise Cote on Dec. 23 ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to rescind approval for spirotetramat, which inhibits cell reproduction in insects. Cote said the EPA didn’t properly seek comments or publicize the review process. The judge in New York ordered the ruling stayed until Jan. 15 and sent the matter back to the EPA.

Spirotetramat, sold under various names including Movento, was approved for use in the U.S. last year, even though the agency was aware of its potential harm to bees, Cote said. The Natural Resources Defense Council, an environmental organization in New York, and the Xerces Society, a Portland, Oregon, a wildlife conservation group, challenged the EPA’s actions.

The insecticide is fit for use and the ruling is based on EPA processes rather than product safety, Jack Boyne, a spokesman for Bayer Crop Science LP, a unit of the Leverkusen, Germany-based company, said in a statement. The chemical “has shown excellent performance with regard to bee safety,” he said. Bayer is “evaluating our options “on how to respond to Cote’s ruling, he said.

Pest killers have been linked to honeybee colony collapse disorder, or mass deaths of the insects, which have been reported since 2006. Bees pollinate \$15 billion of U.S. plants each year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Viruses, mites, pesticides and poor bee treatment have been suggested as primary causes of the disorder, which has been reported in at least

35 states, as well as in Europe and Asia. The Bayer insecticide was approved in Australia in August, and the company said at the time that it also had been cleared for use in Canada and Austria.

Information provided by Eric Mader

National Pollinator Outreach Coordinator The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
The Xerces Society is an international nonprofit organization that protects wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat. Our Pollinator Conservation Program works to support the sustainability and profitability of farms while protecting pollinator insects. To join the Society, make a contribution, or read about our work, please visit www.xerces.org.

Langstroth's 200th Birthday– A Science Celebration

Two hundred years after his birth in 1810, Rev. Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth, known as the “Father of American Beekeeping,” will be honored, thanks, in part to the growing buzz of the sustainability movement. Langstroth’s discovery of “bee space” and his invention of the movable-frame honey bee hive will be celebrated with a national network of exhibits, workshops and seminars and, with your help, perhaps a commemorative U.S. postage stamp as well. Langstroth was employed as a tutor, a minister and a schoolmaster in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania in the 1830s and 1840s. Fascinated by their honeycomb, he began his beekeeping hobby with “two stocks of bees in common box hives.” Before long he was exploring

the subject of beekeeping in depth. He observed his bees and sought to understand their ways in order to build better hive boxes which would allow him to combat the destructive wax moths, and collect surplus honey without harming the bees or damaging their wonderful honey comb.

This is the essence of the scientific method. Those who might think that Langstroth was an unlikely scientist would be misunderstanding the role of science in our lives. The scientific method involves experiencing the world in which we live, responding to the curiosity that naturally resides inside us, devising a method of observing and recording, testing and confirming our expectations, and evaluating the results we achieve. It is available and valuable to each and every one of us, just as it was to Langstroth. In the words of Thomas D. Seeley, Ph.D., Professor of Biology at Cornell University's Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, "Without Langstroth's invention of the movable-frame hive, I'm sure that the honey bee would not have become the best studied insect on the planet."

Langstroth's efforts gave us a way to raise large quantities of bees, keep them healthy and collect their honey in a truly sustainable way, without destroying their home. We all owe him a debt and the year 2010, his 200th birthday year is a great time to start repaying that debt in ways that benefit us all.

Step One in repaying our debt to Langstroth will be the study and appreciation of his efforts and what those efforts have yielded. Throughout the year 2010, the Down to Earth Program will be developing and coordinating a network of national workshops, exhibits and gatherings to teach and learn about the considerable science connected with the honey bee. There is so much more to what we will be doing in the next year to celebrate Langstroth's birthday, which I will describe at a later date. But I don't want to conclude this introduction before explaining Step Two.

Step Two in repaying the debt we owe Langstroth would be to convince the U.S. Postal Service that we all deserve a commemorative postage stamp created in honor of his 200th birthday. It is my hope that the beekeeping community, anyone who enjoys honey, and everyone who appreciates all the foods we eat which would not be available without the work of the honey bee, will write a letter or sign a petition encouraging the U.S. Postal Service to honor Langstroth in this way at this special time.

Please spread the word. A flood of letters is necessary to convince the Postal Service how important Langstroth is to Americans across the country, and how a commemorative stamp would help him achieve the recognition he has so far been denied. The stamp is especially important at a time when honeybees are threatened by colony collapse disorder, and people all over the country, even in urban areas, are helping out by embracing beekeeping. Get everyone you know on board the postage stamp campaign, and have them tell their friends.

The U.S. Postal Service Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee meets in January 2010, so please write a letter today. We need a pile of letters waiting for them when they arrive at their meeting. Letters sent directly to the Postal Service will be most effective. Below, please find the address to which people should send those letters. For those wishing to include their names on petitions which I will be preparing and submitting, as well as anyone who wishes to let me know they support this project, please send an email to me at LLL200@scifri.org and include your Zip Code so that we may know the breadth of our support. Or Write To: Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee c/o Stamp Development, U.S. Postal Service 1735 North Lynn St., Suite 5013Arlington, VA 22209-6432

The Down to Earth Project of the Science Friday Initiative • 4 West 43rd Street, NY, NY 10036

Nebraska Beekeepers Assn
C/O Keith Nielson
865 Leonard Ave
Polk, NE 68654

Editorial- Since my last editorial we have had several major snow storms and another one today that has closed our school today. It is a good thing that I have my hives wrapped with tar paper with our temperatures dropping into the sub zero range at night. With the Christmas storm of “09” it is interesting to see where the snow is piled up. I have been taking notes so I will know where to place my hives in the future so will be able to access them easily to make sure that the hive entrances are open. Walking through snow up to my bottom is not much fun or having to walk through the road ditches to get to the hives. A quick peek into the top of the hive has revealed that I still have some bees left and some others that I am questionable about. A nice warm day in February will tell the truth of how those hives are doing. If the Farmer’s Almanac is correct these last several snow storms are only the beginning of a snowy winter. Winter is the time to prepare for the next season by building or repairing hive bodies, building frames and screened bottom boards, and putting together supplies for the next season.

With the New Year comes the election of officers for the association. If you want to expand your horizons and learn more about the Nebraska Beekeepers Association and beekeeping in general now is the time to step forward. As I have traveled to various parts of Nebraska I have had the opportunity to meet many people who would make a good leader in this association. When I took office of editor several years ago I was hesitant to do so because of the many commitments that I had with my teaching job, being on the FFA Board, an officer with my local Elks lodge and involvement with the church. The best way to help an organization grow is by having new ideas in the organization. I am pleased that finally our organization is reaching more than eastern Nebraska which was a concern of mine when I took office. If you want to see some changes in your organization and our industry you need to step up to the plate and help with the management of the association. Please consider joining the ranks of the executive board.

Keith Nielson
Editor, Nebraska Beekeepers Assn.