David Shockey lauded as KSBA 2019 Beekeeper of the Year

He advanced KCHP, Fair displays, bookkeeping, mentoring program

By Tammy Potter, State Apiarist

Former recipients of the KSBA Beekeeper of the Year voted to award David Shockey the 2019 Kentucky Beekeeper of the Year. There are several reasons:

- Shockey worked with me to write a grant to the Agricultural Development Board to implement the Kentucky Certified Honey Program (KCHP) that educates consumers about honey produced within Kentucky. With that grant, KSBA hired Sarah Preston to manage the program. Under her leadership, this program has the potential to create economic partnerships between beekeepers and markets, as well as promote accurately labeled products.

- Shockey implemented a strategy of equitable booth space at the Kentucky State Fair so that all beekeepers had the same amount of shelf space at the beginning of the Fair. As beekeepers sold out of product, commercial beekeepers could have more shelf space. With rules for labels clearly defined by the KSBA Board, the 2019 KSBA Honey Booth products reflected truth in labeling. Prices for products were also raised in 2019, the first time in several years for some products. This helped provide incentive for beekeepers to bring their products to the Fair.

- Shockey called for improvements in the keeping of KSBA records. It is always much easier to sweep bookkeeping topics under the rug, but Shockey has brought clarity to the need for better record keeping.

- Many talk about Shockey’s mentoring program in Hardin County, in which beekeepers will attend his courses through the course of a full year.

Although Shockey steps down from his KSBA roles due to health concerns, he leaves a legacy of transparency and equity which will benefit all KSBA members.

David Shockey in a familiar role, mentoring future beekeepers, in Hardin County on this occasion. (Photo, Hardin Co. Beekeepers website)
**WINTER EVENTS**

Winter is the season to brush up your beekeeping knowledge and make your skills more versatile. Bee schools in your area offer the most efficient path to being a profitable beekeeper.

*BeeLines* will publish a listing of winter schools in its next issue. Make sure your school is represented. Send the details of date, place, time, subject matter, and cost by Dec. 15 to

Tammy.Potter@ky.gov

- **Dec. 14.** Coalfield Beekeeping Conference. Goodloe Center, Mountain Empire Community College, 3441 Mountain Empire Road, Big Stone Gap, Va. 9 a.m. EST. Classes include beginning beekeeping, gentle beekeeping, pollinator gardens, Varroa mite do's and don'ts, two-queen system, honey bee anatomy, migrant beekeeping, and small hive beetle management. $20 per person and $30 per couple, includes presentations and lunch.

Register online at tinyurl.com/2019CoalfieldBeekeeping. More information: Phil Meeks, pmeeks@vt.edu or (276) 328-6194.

- **Jan. 8-11.** American Beekeeping Federation, Schaumberg, Ill.

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**State Fair winning recipe**

**Honey pecan slice cookies**

1/2 c. honey
3/8 c. sugar
1/2 c. butter
1 egg
2-1/2 c. flour
1-1/2 t. baking powder
1/4 t. baking soda
1/4 t. salt
3/4 c. chopped pecans

Combine honey, sugar, butter, and egg and beat until smooth. Whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Add flour mixture to cream mixture. Stir in pecans. Wrap the log in plastic wrap and chill for at least an hour or overnight. Cut into 1/4 of an inch thin slices and bake at 375 for 12-15 minutes. Cookies should be lightly browned at the edges. Remove from the oven and transfer to a wire baking rack.

-Candace Aylmer, Shelby County

- **Jan. 18.** Eastern Kentucky Winter Bee School, Perry County High School, Hazard. 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. EST. Keynote speaker: Clare Rittschof, Ph.D., University of Kentucky Entomology. Topic: Robber bees. $20 per adult before Jan. 12. $25 at door. Lunch included, family rates available, vendors present. Door prizes. Sponsored by Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky-Perry County. Kentucky State University autoclave available.

Questions about registration or event cancellation: Charles May, (606) 436-2044 or cmay@uky.edu.

- **Jan. 18.** Greenup County Beginning Beekeeper School. 9 a.m.-noon EST. Greenup County Extension Office, 35 Wurtland Avenue, Wurtland. Free, but pre-register. Includes lunch of soup beans and cornbread.

Pre-register: Linda Hieneman, linda.hieneman@uky.edu. (606) 836-0187.

- **Jan. 25.** Kentucky Queen Bee Breeders Association General Meeting. Speaker: Larry Connor, Ph.D. Topic: Sustainable sideline queen rearing and management. Kentucky State University Farm, 1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort. Members only. Attendees receive a signed copy of Dr. Connor’s book.

KQBBA c/o Dorothey Morgan, 544 West Farm Road, Nancy, KY 42544, (606) 871-7300, or lavenderlane@bellsouth.net.

- **Jan. 25.** Northeast Kentucky Boyd County Bee School. Franks Building, Boyd County Fairgrounds, 1758 Addington Dr., Ashland. $5 members, $10 non-members. Registration 8 a.m. EST. Program ends 3 p.m.

Pre-register: Boyd County Extension Office, (606) 739.5184.

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[Updated Bee School Details at www.kyagr.com]
Know (and greet) your Agriculture Committees legislators

### House Agriculture Committee

- **Home city; District number; counties in District.**
- **Richard Heath, Chair**
  Mayfield; 2; Graves, McCracken (part)
- **Mark Hart, Vice Chair**
  Falmouth; 78; Harrison, Pendleton, Scott (part)
- **Myron Dossett**
  Pembroke; 9; Christian (part), Hopkins (part)
- **Larry Elkins**
  Murray; 5; Calloway, Trigg (part)
- **Kelly Flood**
  Lexington; 75; Fayette (part)
- **Joe Graviss**
  Versailles; 56; Fayette (part), Franklin (part), Woodford
- **Chris Harris**
  Forest Hills; 93; Martin, Pike (part)
- **Angie Hatton**
  Whitesburg; 94; Letcher, Pike (part)
- **Kim King**
  Harrodsburg; 55; Jessamine (part), Mercer, Washington
- **Matthew Koch**
  Paris; 72; Bath, Bourbon, Fayette (part), Nicholas
- **Phillip Pratt**
  Georgetown; 62; Fayette (part), Owen, Scott (part)
- **Rick Rand**
  Bedford; 47; Carroll, Gallatin, Henry, Trimble
- **Brandon Reed**
  Hodgenville; 24; Green, LaRue, Marion
- **Rob Rothenburger**
  Shelbyville; 58; Shelby
- **Steven Rudy**
  Paducah; 1; Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, Hickman, McCracken (part)
- **Dean Schamore**
  Hardinsburg; 10; Breckinridge, Hancock, Hardin (part)
- **John Sims Jr.**
  Flemingsburg; 70; Bracken, Fleming, Mason, Robertson
- **Wilson Stone**
  Scottsville; 22; Allen, Simpson, Warren (part)
- **Nancy Tate**
  Brandenburg; 27; Hardin (part), Meade
- **Walker Thomas**
  Hopkinsville; 8; Christian (part), Trigg (part)
- **James Tipton**
  Taylorsville; 53; Anderson, Bullitt (part), Spencer
- **Susan Westrom**
  Lexington; 79; Fayette (part)
- **Les Yates**
  Winchester; 73; Clark, Madison (part)

### Senate Agriculture Committee

- **Paul Hornback, Chair**
  Shelbyville; 20; Carroll, Henry, Jefferson (part), Shelby, Trimble
- **Matt Castlen, Vice Chair**
  Owensboro; 8; Daviess, Hancock, McLean
- **Jared Carpenter**
  Berea; 34; Fayette (part), Madison, Rockcastle
- **Julian M. Carroll**
  Frankfort; 7; Anderson, Franklin, Gallatin, Owen, Woodford
- **David P. Givens**
  Greensburg; 9; Allen, Barren, Green, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson
- **Stan Humphries**
  Cadiz; 1; Calloway, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Lyon, Trigg
- **Robby Mills**
  Henderson; 4; Caldwell, Crittenden, Henderson, Livingston, Union, Webster
- **Dennis Parrett**
  Elizabethtown; 10; Hardin, Jefferson (part)
- **Damon Thayer**
  Georgetown; 17; Grant, Kenton (part), Scott
- **Robin L. Webb**
  Grayson; 18; Boyd, Carter, Greenup
- **Stephen West**
  Paris; 27; Bourbon, Fleming, Harrison, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas, Robertson, Rowan
- **Whitney Westerfield**
  Crofton; 3; Christian, Logan, Todd

### A simple personal contact now could prove helpful later.

Best wishes to all our legislators and state government officials as they prepare to begin Governor-elect Andy Beshear’s term and the new legislative session.

Here is a listing of the membership of the Kentucky House and Senate agriculture committees. The information is from the Legislative Research Commission website.

### Call and say hello

If your local Senator or Representative is a member, it would be a good idea to offer a congratulatory call from you and all the members of your beekeeping association. Wish them well, and let them know you’re keenly interested in their impact on beekeeping in particular and agriculture in general.

### Which one is mine?

To find your Senator and Representative if you don’t know who they are, the website above has a clickable map.

Zoom in on your neighborhood (you can drill down in great detail), and click on your street to be taken directly to your Senator’s and Representative’s bio pages.

Whether Agriculture Committee members or not, it’s a good idea to set up a speaking relationship with your elected representatives.
International concerns

Above left: State Apiarist Tammy Potter at the Honey Bee Health Coalition (HBHC) booth during the 2019 Apimondia International Apicultural Congress last September in Montréal, Canada. Above right: the delegation of Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) members, of which Potter is the Kentucky Director, as well as representing EAS on the HBHC board. Near right: Beth Wagner, assistant superintendent at the Kentucky State Fair, joined Potter at Apimondia. Wagner stayed in Canada after the conference ended to tour local apiaries.

Former Kentucky State Apiarist Phil Craft works for Véto-pharma, a French-based honey bee health company.

Eastern Apicultural Society seeks applicants for research grants

The Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) Foundation for Honey Bee Research will award competitive grants for honey bee research projects conducted during 2020, the organization has announced.

The EAS Foundation for Honey Bee Research is financed by donations from beekeepers interested in research on topical problems in honey bees. Proposals are solicited annually. Award amounts will be determined in spring 2020, before the EAS April annual meeting.

Grant funds may be used for supplies, equipment, salaries, travel necessary for data collection or other research tasks, or other appropriate uses by the recipient.

Requests for support for student projects (undergraduate summer employees/graduate student) or for equipment/supplies for distinct research projects are given highest priority. Requests for “seed money” to collect preliminary data, and “add-on” funds to continue present research will also be considered. EAS also welcomes project proposals and requests that amplify ongoing research programs where additional funds can expand the larger program’s objective.

The total amount to be awarded in 2020 is $10,000. Deadline for application is Feb. 1, 2020. The award recipients will be announced at the EAS 2020 Conference, with funds available by April 1, 2020. The principal investigator may be invited to present their findings at the 2021 EAS Annual Conference, and the researcher must submit to the EAS Journal a summary of the research by Sept. 1, 2021.

Proposal submission criteria and evaluation details at easternapiculture.org/honey-bee-research. Further inquiries: HoneyBeeResearch@easternapiculture.org.
BIP makes crucial bee data available to all

The Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to research and collect honey bee health surveillance data and make it available for all to use, said Anne Marie Fauvel, BIP spokeswoman. The non-government-connected organization is seeking private support to continue its mission.

BIP projects include the Colony Loss Map, Sentinel Apiary Project, the National Management Survey, and supporting and managing the USDA APHIS National Honey Bee Pest and Disease survey. BIP houses and maintains the largest honey bee health database in the U.S., Fauvel said, keeping its data public and free.

“We provide a large number of commercial beekeepers across the country with near-real-time data on the overall health of their colonies, so that they can make data-driven decisions,” Fauvel said.

BIP is not a government organization, so they depend on private additional funding to forward their efforts. All donations are fully tax deductible, she said.

One-time or monthly donations can be made on the BIP website, beeinformed.org/donate. Donations by check payable to “Bee Informed Partnership” can be sent to Attn: Ruby Zhang, CPA, Goldin Group LLC, 4641 Montgomery Ave. #300, Bethesda, MD 20814.

BIP wants to continue leading the way in groundbreaking discoveries in the honey bee world, and to keep providing our beekeepers with the important information they need to keep their bees healthy, Everyone needs bees, and every dollar helps us help the bees, Fauvel said.

Anne Marie Fauvel: fauvelam@umd.edu

BIP’s 2018 Kentucky report: https://research.beeinformed.org/reports/state_reports/state_report/?year=2018&state=KY
The Beekeepers of Indiana (TBoI), the state beekeeping association for Indiana, offers a $2,000 scholarship for any college junior or senior entomology major. Scholarship candidates are not required to be members of The Beekeepers of Indiana, be from Indiana, or be attending an institution in Indiana. “This is all about promoting higher education for our industry,” said Debbie Seib, scholarship chair for TBoI.

The scholarship also waives the registration fee for the individual to attend the following year’s fall conference of The Beekeepers of Indiana Fall Conference.

The deadline for submission is **April 1, 2020**. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

**Eligibility**

The candidate may be any full-time student with junior or senior status enrolled and in good academic standing in an accredited college, and pursuing a degree in entomology. The candidate must have kept honey bees for a minimum of two years by the beginning of his/her junior college year.

**Scholarship application**

Qualified candidates must complete an application form providing their basic contact information, brief beekeeping experience and education, and other relevant data.

Candidates must provide letters of recommendation from at least two experienced beekeepers, preferably a mentor and another beekeeping individual familiar with the candidate’s experience and qualifications. If possible, this individual should be a Master Beekeeper, state apiarist, educator, or research/extension specialist in the home state of the candidate.

Candidates must write an essay of two to three double-spaced typewritten pages describing their reasons they should be awarded the scholarship.

Electronic application at the TBoI website: indianabeekeeper.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/The_Beekeepers_of_Indiana_scholarship_application.25893902.pdf

Or request an application from beekeepers.indiana@yahoo.com.

Purdue University entomologist Dr. Brock Harpur (right) shared information with members of the Kentucky Queen Bee Breeders Association Inc. (KQBBAI) at their November meeting. The group next meets on Jan. 25, 2020, at the Kentucky State University Research Farm, where they will hear from Dr. Larry Connor on building a sustainable queen-rearing sideline business. Dorothey Morgan, KQBBAI information contact, says interested queen bee producers can join the organization at the group’s website to attend the members-only Jan. 25 gathering. Members attending the Jan. 25 meeting will receive a signed copy of Dr. Connor’s book.
Kentucky State Beekeepers Association
Membership Form – Year 2020

Annual dues are $15 (per individual or family)
Family is parents & children under 18
Local association, please submit the full $15 and
association refunds will be issued at the end of the year ($2/person).
Membership expires Dec. 31 – renewal due January 1

Please Type or Print All Information Clearly

* Date Submitted: __________________Submitted by Individual ☐ or Bee Club ☐

* Name: ________________________________________________________________

* Address: _____________________________________________________________

* City: __________________________ * State________ * Zip: ______________

Home telephone #: _________________________
Cell telephone #: _________________________

Email address: ______________________________

* Do you want to subscribe to our email news list? Please go to www.kybees.org to create
an account. You will be able to manage your subscription at anytime and your email
address will not be shared with anyone else.

Name of local beekeeping association(s), if a member: __________________________

KSBA maintains a Certified Kentucky Honey and Buy Local page on its website. This
page helps the public find honey and related items from KSBA members. If you would
like to be included on the Certified Kentucky Honey and Buy Local webpage, please go
to our website, www.kybees.org, and create an account.

* Required information

While phone number(s) & email address are not required, this information will aid in
communication, especially if we have questions about your address.

Mail form and check to:
Kentucky State Beekeepers Assoc.
P.O. Box 636
Lawrenceburg, KY 40342

(Below for treasurer’s use)

Date Received: ____________________________
Amount: ___________________________
Check No.: ___________________________
BEST WISHES OF THE HOLIDAY TO ALL KENTUCKY BEEKEEPERS
AND ALL READERS OF BeeLines

This mosaic, photos of delegates to the recent Apimondia summit in Montréal, illustrates nicely that each of our individual efforts, barely noticeable in themselves, can nevertheless combine to form a brighter picture for the world’s pollinators. I hope that cooperation and mutual benefit inspires all our actions, in the beekeeping world and in the greater sphere, all during the holidays and in the coming new decade.

Tammy Potter
KENTUCKY STATE APIARIST