The Legislative Committee 2022  by Jim Kellie

We start a new year in the Legislative Committee. We have a few things still on our agenda that we started working on with the Kansas Agriculture Dept. One that is currently being worked on is an issue in which Commercial beekeepers had some difficulties in a few Kansas counties getting their farm license plates. New county treasurers and clerks are sometimes unaware that beekeeping is recognized as agriculture and that the government of the United States recognizes bees as livestock. For large beekeepers that have vehicles that are only used for Ag in beekeeping, a farm license tag allows them to cross state lines (interstate), and travel with in state (intrastate) using agricultural regulations. This is extremely important when hauling live honeybees. After a few emails and discussions, it was decided that Dana Ladner, with the Dept of Ag, would oversee an educational bulletin to go out to all Kansas Treasurers regarding beekeeping and farm license tags.

The Kansas legislature is now in session. We are watching bills that may affect anything involved with beekeeping. So far only one has come up and that is the food tax discussion. Several legislators on both sides of the aisle are interested in removing sales tax on food. Bill SB 342 is one to watch. This one is pushing for 0% sales tax on food, as well as in Farmers Markets. Assuming that honey would be considered food, which I believe it should be, would mean that all of you selling honey direct to consumers would no longer have to charge state sales tax. That said, there still may be a local county and city food tax. We will continue to monitor and track this bill.

The US International Trade Commission (USITC) is proceeding with their final phase of the investigation of raw honey being dumped at low prices from Argentina, Brazil, India, Ukraine, and Vietnam. The hearing will be held on Tuesday April 12, at 9:30 am ET. As you remember before, American Honey Producers and Sioux Honey Association filed suit. Honey was being bought from these countries for as low as 60 to 90 cents per pound. Packers were only offering $1.25 to $1.50 a pound for American honey. As of now, packers are offering around the $2.50 range for American honey in semi loads, in anticipation of getting ahead of the commis-
sion’s findings. We are in hopes that the USITC will find in our favor which could raise prices even higher.

We continue to work behind the scenes, listening to our Kansas beekeepers who have problems and ideas that may help. Our committee continues to try and keep abreast of changes in beekeeping, as well as, legislation to inform the KHPA board and seek their direction. Our KHPA convention is coming in March. We hope to see you there. Please feel free to catch any of us in the halls if you have questions about regulations or State issues—James Kellie, Steve Tipton, & Brian Withrow.

Kansas State Fair—2022 Prepare and Submit Your Entries

Greetings to everyone from the northeastern part of Kansas. As I write this, the temperatures are in the single digits and snow is on the ground where the sun hasn’t been able to reach it. Now is the time to plan for the Kansas State Fair which runs September 9-18. Spring will be arriving soon and we will be anxiously checking our hives, feeding as needed, making splits and raising queens.

Consider entering some honey at the Kansas State Fair. Plan to do some comb honey entries and do some reading on how to make good comb honey. We have 3 classes of comb honey to submit entries in; cut comb, section comb, and chunk comb. Maybe get your wax rendered from this past season and do a wax entry in candles, bulk bee wax, or art in design. Consider making creamed honey for an entry. Brian Withrow is the current creamed honey champion and he gave a great talk via zoom for our KHPA value added series. This presentation should be in our archived presentations and it is a good way to learn how to make creamed honey. There is also a honey gift basket class. Start thinking about what you could make and include in your basket, as well as, a theme for it. It would be awesome if we could really fill up the shelves in the honey show area.

KHPA pays for all of the premiums in the honey show classes and the honey baked goods classes, as well. If we don’t have at least 3 entries in each class to be awarded, we forfeit our premium money to the Kansas State Fair. In my opinion it would be way cooler if these monies went to individuals who submitted entries in the fair. If your local club would like a program presented on preparing entries for the show, we have some great folks in our association who would be willing to present. Feel free to contact me if you need help in finding someone to present on this topic.

I’m looking forward to a great year and wishing everyone else the same.

Kristi Sanderson. 2nd Vice President
Why does the KHPA have a constitution? A constitution is a necessary part of any club or organization because it clarifies our member’s purpose and explains how and why we will carry out the mission of the club—the betterment of mankind’s most important insect, the honey bee. Our constitution allows us to conduct business in an orderly fashion and, hopefully, allows everyone to understand the procedure while protecting our integrity.

Julie Cahoj has acted as the chairperson of our constitution committee. Our constitution and bylaws had not been updated in many years and Julie took on the arduous task of trying to align practice and procedure. THANK YOU, Julie!!! A draft was created and the board met several times to look at both substance and the intent of the document. It was decided to make one substantive change to the way we do business. Our state has been divided into “regions” for the purpose of dissemination of information and to better serve the beekeepers of our state. (You can read the bylaws for clarification on the dividing lines.) Because of the low number of beekeepers toward the western side of our state, the recommendation was made to combine Northwestern and Southwestern regions into a single Western region for the purposes of regional representation. We have also decided to formally add two additional board positions: Cappings Editor and Past President. Both of these positions will become part of the board with voting privileges. The KHPA Executive Board has proposed these changes to KHPA’s Constitution and Bylaws. The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting. Proposed changes to the Constitution must be published not less than 30 days before the meeting date in the official KHPA’s publication, website, or as a special edition notification.

Please read both the Constitution and Bylaws in this issue of The Cappings. During our Spring business meeting (March 5, 2022) we will vote to approve this new Constitution of the Kansas Honey Producers. If you have questions about any document, feel free to contact Julie or me with your concerns.

Becky Tipton, President
News from Northeast Kansas

Hello fellow Kansas Beekeepers!

I would like to introduce myself; I am Jo Patrick, the new representative for Northeast Kansas. I live in Olathe and I have enjoyed being a member of the Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association for over ten years.

I would like to thank Chad Gilliland, past NE KS Area Representative for his service. Chad held this position for 3 consecutive terms!

In NE KS, late summer and fall temperatures were above normal and it was very dry. The new year brought cold, winter conditions with it. Since January 1\textsuperscript{st}, we have received 5.5 inches of snow. Silver Maple buds were beginning to swell but have been halted by the freezing temperatures. On the warm days, honey bees have been able to fly and collect water. Most colonies entered winter with plenty of food stores, but the warm weather left some beekeepers uncertain about sufficient resources.

NEBKA has kicked off the new year with some great educational opportunities. The Beginning Beekeepers Class, a day-long event, was held January 29\textsuperscript{th}. Preparations are being made for the second class; Year 2 and Bee-Yond. Year 2 and Bee-Yond will focus on topics that include swarm biology, extraction, wax rendering, integrated pest management, and beekeeping as a business. Year 2 and Bee-Yond is scheduled for February 26, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds.

NEKBA has welcomed six new scholarship students into their Youth Scholarship Program. Joli Winner chairs this program.

Plans are also being made for NEKBA’s annual Funday, June 4, 2022. It will also be held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Guest speakers so far include: Dr. Jay Evans, a Research Leader at the USDA Honey Bee Research Lab in Beltsville, Maryland; Bee breeder, Krispn Givens, Purdue University, and Dr. Judy Wu-Smart, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bee Lab.

Jo Patrick, Northeast Region Representative

North Central Region News

Greetings from North Central Kansas! While we had more persistent warm weather this Fall that kept the bees active later into the year, it seems Winter is finally here. The extended warm days made it nice to inspect the bees further into the season and some late nectar flows have filled the hives with extra honey weight for the bees to consume.

Then, on December 15th, came the storm. In Riley County, winds came from the south most of the day, blowing things around. It was definitely a time to have rocks and bricks on hive covers. I even had straps on some that were more exposed. But suddenly, the wind shifted from the west and got up to 90+ mph in our area. It was a game-changer for many. A smoky yard and a dozen hives knocked over in my home apiary (they all survived) were nothing compared to the losses and devastation in the western part of our region with their terrifying wildfires! My heart goes out to them.

3 weeks ago, fully vaxxed, boosted, and masked in an N95, I dodged Omicron like a ninja. I was able to carefully attend the American Beekeeping Federation conference in Las Vegas. It wasn’t up to full speed yet, with a smaller attendance, and some speakers needing to present remotely, but it was good to have a few days immersed in national bee reports and research. Varroa is still a huge factor, as many locals who have already had losses can attest. There was much more talk about queen quality
and fertility. So, it isn't just in our imaginations! They are finding that queens are being superseded more frequently. The mean age of quality queen egg-laying viability has decreased to about 11 months. Yikes! Many theories for this and studies being continued, but for us, something to be prepared for. Of course, a lot of the theories come down to our usual environmental culprits such as temperature, pesticides and nutrition.

With Omicron in full force right now in North Central Kansas hitting our schools and hospitals, we weren't able to meet at Rolling Hills Zoo in January. Hopefully, we can meet at KHPA in Salina, in March, and resume in-person meetings, in May, at Rolling Hills Zoo, in Salina. To join our contact list for updates, email me at nikkibfarm@gmail.com

Nikki Bowman, North Central Region Representative

News from Northwest Kansas

Hello, my name is Dienna (DeeDee) Gebhart. I live in Trego County, Kansas where I am a bus driver and a paraprofessional for USD #208 Trego County Schools. Recently widowed, I am reinventing my life.

I have always been attracted to what bees do in the garden and how they do it. Through a little online searching, I found a beekeeper in Northwest Kansas and posted this simple question, “Where would be a good location to place a hive?” I have no idea how I found this individual. Maybe it was divine providence or maybe just an answer to a prayer. This, seemingly simple question, was the catalyst into the complex world of beekeeping.

Here begins the reinvention of DeeDee. My first direct contact with beekeepers was at the November 2021 Kansas Honey Producers Association meeting. I attended this meeting as a birthday present to myself. I spent these two days engaged in interesting and informative conversations. I was soaking up all the information I could. So, although I have yet to have a beehive set up, I have many individuals willing to help me. And that is the first step.

It was at this meeting that I was elected the Northwest Regional Representative. Being new to both beekeeping and serving as representative, I will do both jobs to the best of my ability. I very much welcome any sound advice along the way, which I have no doubt is abundant in this community of friends. It's exciting to make new friends, learn new things, and share adventures along the way. I will keep you updated on what is happening in Northwest Kansas and especially in my backyard!

DeeDee Gebhart, Northwest Region Representative

Great Plains Master Beekeepers

We are trying to establish a list of Kansas Beekeepers who have signed up for the Great Plains Master Beekeepers. Due to confidentiality issues, they do not feel comfortable sharing that information with us. We see that there are over 600 Kansas beekeepers who have signed up with GPMB. We know that you will need volunteer hours and that you’ll need to be tested during a field exam. We can help you with that. To add your name to the list, please send Joli Winer the following information by email to joli@heartlandhoney.com. I need your name, address, email address, and your cell number. If I need more information later we'll be able to contact you.

Joli Winer
**News from Southeast Kansas**

I’ve been busy building bee hives and hive stands this winter. On nice days, the bees have been out looking for pollen and getting into some of my animal feed. I will be speaking at a beginner beekeeping class on January 29, in Columbus, Kansas at the Cherokee County Extension Office. Additionally, the South East Kansas Beekeeping Alliance will be having a beekeeper swap meet on April 2, 2022 from 9 AM-3 PM, rain or shine, at the Crawford County Historical Museum. There is no charge for a booth. Contact me if you have any questions.

William ‘Tiny’ Jackson, Jr., Southeast Region Representative

**South Central Region News**

I’m sad to report that we lost one of our members, Terrie (Munkres) Clark, in her fight with cancer. She was a member of this club before I arrived six years ago. She often shared her knowledge of bees and soap-making with others and donated swarms to members to get them started with bees. She continued to attend our gatherings even when she wasn’t feeling her best. We will certainly miss her!

My bees were out flying the last warm day. We have bees at the Nature Center and I fed a supplement candy board for the winter. They weren’t very gracious as I received my first sting of the season!

South Central Honey Producers/Great Plains Beekeepers meet once a month at the Great Plains Nature Center located at 6232 E. 29th St. N., Wichita, KS 67220. Meetings are on the second Saturday of the month at 1:30 pm in the auditorium. I can be reached at jlpatty@me.com or by phone at 316-765-4435.

Jim and Sharon Rowan will have a beginning beekeeping class on Monday nights in February starting, February 7, 2022 and ending February 28, 2022. Classes will meet from 7-9 pm at WSU West, 3801 N. Walker Ave., Maize, KS 67101, (316) 978-6777. Cost is $69.00. Enrollment information may be found at [Beginning Beekeeping - [Office for Workforce, Professional & Community Education - Wichita State University](enrole.com).

Jane Kill, South Central Region Representative

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**We are Poisoning Our World**

About a year ago, Dr. Judy Wu-Smart reported her findings about a toxic by-product of the Ethanol plant, AltEn, in Mead, Nebraska. Judy’s bee lab has kept bees in the location of this plant for many years. This area was one of the most productive yards for the research facility. Then, their bees started dying in record numbers. Judy’s investigation disclosed toxic levels of neonic pesticides in ground water, soil and even plant nectar in the yards surrounding the ethanol plant. This plant processes seed corn that had been treated with neonic but not used for planting. Ethanol produces a byproduct sometimes called “wet cake” that is offered as cattle feed. But they cannot sell treated seed wet cake. Another byproduct is called biochar. It can be applied as a soil amendment for planting.

A farmer located just a couple miles from my back door had agreed to by 600 “supersacks” of biochar to apply to his fields where he grows soybeans and corn. A Nebraska official alerted his
Meet the Beek—William ‘Tiny’ Jackson, Jr.

My beekeeping started with the purchase of a 44-acre farm just south of Burlington. In order to get beehives on my land, I started helping a friend, Glen, who was a local beekeeper. Glen and I went to Emporia one day and happened to drive by a home that had beehives in the yard. The home belonged to Don and Jan Morey, a prominent beekeeper of the area. By the time we left Don and Jan’s, they had equipped me with a full beehive with a swarm of bees and hardware. This started my journey to learning about bees and the beekeepers that support them.

With coaching from Don, I went from one hive to three; one being an observation hive and one being a swarm that I had caught. My first harvest that fall produced two gallons of honey from the hive that Morey’s had gifted to me. I joined different clubs and attended different classes in order to expand my knowledge of beekeeping. I did not know then that my time with Glen and Don and Jan would set me up for several years of beekeeping and would lead me to want to help others by doing the same.

Tiny Jackson
Got Bees?
Honeybee Packages arriving late March/ early April 2022. Healthy and competitively priced package bees. Early packages & get a quick start on spring flowers.

Reserve yours now - they sell out fast!
Package consists of ~3 Lbs. Bees + Mated Queen + can of syrup feed + transport cage. Bees to be placed in your prepared Hive. Hive is not included with package – BEES only.

Convenient pick up at: Hays – Salina - Newton

$144.00/package
Swobee Honey Farm
1569 Toulon Ave. - Hays, Ks.

For more details and pre-order:
Greg Swob 785-639-7766
gswob@mwenergy.com

Extracting more $$$ from your hives

These new, free, virtual, Value-Added programs will be presented on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm via zoom. It is being sponsored by the Kansas Honey Producers Association as part of our membership drive. If you are not a member, please consider joining by going to www.kansashoneyproducers.org it’s only $15 per year. You will receive an email before the programs with a link to register. If you registered for a previous program, you will automatically receive the link to view each month via email.

To register for the meetings, click on the link below or copy it in your browser
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsdoiqqTwvHNxk7aeR5Hrw7LoC6boCY4dh

Zoom will send you the link. If you have a question, please call Joli at 913-593-3562 or email joli@heartlandhoney.com.

Thursday, February 17th Queen Rearing- Cheryl Burkhead
Thursday, March 17th Selling at Farmers Markets and Craft shows- Stephanie Brown
Thursday, April 21st Mentoring and Concierge Beekeeping- Nikki Bowman
Thursday, May 19th Making Mead and Honey Beer
As beekeepers, we sit in our warm and cozy homes all Winter and Worry and Wait. Will they survive these crazy temperature fluctuations? Do they have enough food? Did enough mites get killed? According to the Bee Informed Partnership’s 2020/2021 survey, Kansas Beekeepers lost nearly 44% of their hives last winter. This is a huge worry for beekeepers. So, what can be done to help our bees survive? Understanding the behavior, the needs, and the stressors, will help reduce colony loss. As we sit inside this winter, worrying about their survival, and waiting for Spring, we can do some education, or re-education, about what we shoulda-coulda-woulda done to help our bees face the Kansas winters.

**Winter Bees**

Late summer, when the food supplies dwindle and pollen becomes scarce, a signal is sent to the bees that winter is coming, and it is time to store protein for spring. This deficient diet feeds a third category of female honey bees; long lasting winter bees. Winter bees and summer bees look the same on the outside. The difference is inside the winter bees’ abdomen that is filled with a white, fluffy fat bodies. These fat bodies produce vitellogenin to increase the life of a winter bee to six months or more.

These specially formed winter bees are vital come spring when the colony must build up its population for nectar flow, pollen collection, drone rearing, and possible swarming. The special adaptation of the winter bees come into play in late winter when there is little pollen or bee bread available to feed spring’s first brood cycle.

**What Bees Do in Winter**

Once the temperature drops below about 57°F the queen stops laying, and the bees settle in their hive for the winter. They cluster around the queen, facing inward, near the honey stores. Their job is to keep the queen warm, about 90°F, no matter how cold the ambient temperature gets. They do this by shivering their wing muscles to elevate their body temperature. It takes lots of energy, which the bees get by eating the honey stores. As the bees on the outer edges of the cluster get cold, they push their way into the center and other bees must take their turn on the cold outside edge.

Even on the coldest day, large healthy hives will have no trouble creating enough warmth because they have the numbers to do it. What they say is true: winter survival is all about healthy summer hives, lots of bees, and sufficient supplies of pollen and stored honey. Smaller, weaker hives, or late summer swarms will probably not make it through the winter. They just don’t have the numbers to produce the heat they need to survive.

**Starvation**

We worry – have we left the bees enough honey for winter? The typical recommendation is to leave 60–80 lbs. of honey for the winter survival of your bees. Some beekeepers have found adding a candy board in February (with a little pollen in the mix) on a hive can greatly increase the hive’s winter survivability. Throughout the winter, the cluster will maneuver itself over the stored honey for consumption. During long spells of frigid weather, the cluster may become too chilled to move to reach the honey. Starvation can result even in hives with adequate stores. This risk can be mitigated by wrapping or
insulating hives, or creating a wind block to keep the hives from getting bitterly cold. Since all bee-keeping is regional, wrapping or insulating hives may not always be appropriate for every part of Kansas.

**Condensation**
The heat produced, by the shivering bees in the winter cluster, creates condensation in the hive. As the warm air rises and contacts the cold cover, condensation can form and drip down on the bees. As beekeepers, we need to take action to limit this problem, because wet bees are dead bees! We can provide extra ventilation with upper entrances, insulate the inner cover or telescoping cover with rigid foam, or install a hive blanket of wood chips to catch the dripping water. A candy board installed over the brood box can absorb excess moisture too.

**Weakened Bees from Varroa Mites**
It is often stated that the varroa mite is THE biggest issue causing bee death. The varroa mites feed on the fat bodies of the bees, resulting in life-long impairment. Beekeepers must do everything possible to reduce the mite load in their hives, well before the winter months, to prevent our bees from having to face winter stresses in a severely compromised state.

Whatever you decide to do to control the mites in your hives – DO IT! Not sure what to do? The Honey Bee Health Coalition [Homepage - Honey Bee Health Coalition](http://www.honeybeehealthcoalition.org) contains trusted, research-based strategies for suppressing mites. Not to mention, the Varroa Management Decision Making Tool, is like a cool video game for bee geeks.

**Take Action**
Even in the dead of winter, it’s not too late to do something to help the bees. Do a quick hive check on a mild windless day. Add fondant/winter patties. This is especially important in late winter, as the winter bees’ fat bodies and ability to make bee food dwindle. If a cold snap is predicted (remember February 2021?!), provide additional insulation by adding a hive blanket to the top of the hive under the telescoping cover. You may even want to wrap the hive.

A beekeepers’ hive work in winter is minimal, but continuing to check in on the bees is still needed. Most of all, this late winter, let’s plan to inform ourselves and do an even better job next bee season to get our bees ready for winter.

Many thanks to Jeannie Saum, whose article Winter, Wait and Worry, was the inspiration for [WWW.Beekeeping](http://www.beekeeping.org). To read her full unedited article:

[OSBA PDF Viewer [Do not Delete] - Ohio State Beekeepers Association](http://www.osba.org)

Julie Cahoj, 3rd Vice President
Spring 2022 KS Honey Producers Assn. Conference  
March 4 – 5, 2022  
Courtyard by Marriott – 3020 Riffel Dr.  
Salina, KS 67401 – 785-309-1300

Room Block $109.00 – Limited number available  
Call your reservations in early!  
Deadline to reserve Blocked Rate Rooms is February 11, 2022

Friday Lunch – Deli Buffet Sandwiches  
(Deli Meats, Bread Variety, Cheeses, Chips, Pickle Spear, Potato Salad & Baked Beans)  
Banquet – Western Buffet (Fried Chicken, Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls) – Saturday Lunch – Hot Sandwiches (with Lettuce, Tomato, Condiments, Potato Salad, Chips, Whole Fruit & a Cookie)

Contact me ASAP if you need an alternate meal due to lent, etc. so we can do our best to accommodate you.  
Greg Swob- gswob@mwenergy.com or 785-639-7766

Specific Agenda timeline coming soon, see topics/speakers below, more to be announced:  
Gary Reuter – Univ. Of Minnesota: topics to be announced  
Home Made and Handy – Tool/Equipment Inventions by Beekeepers - Jim Kellie  
USDA Programs to Help Landowners Develop Pollinator Friendly Plantings - Dean Krehbiel – Saline County Farm Services Agency  
Placing Hives to Work with Nature – (When Hell Comes to Visit) - Greg Swob  
Making Splits for Fun and Hive Prosperity - Nikki Bowman  
Friday Evening Banquet – Great Food and Entertainment  
Native Seed Sourcing - Trent Page of Star Seed, Osborne, KS  
Hive Pests - Dealing with Small Hive Beetle, Wax Moth, & Let’s Not Forget Varroa - Julie Cahoj  
Ks. Legislative Committee Update - Jim Kellie  
Is YouTube Your Mentor? – Good, Bad & Ugly of Online Information  
KHPA Business Meeting – Constitution, Officer Reports, News, etc.  
Vendors – You Need this! Tools and/or items to make bee work easier or safer.  
Two ever-popular Silent Auctions to support KPHA Grant Programs  
Great food! Great camaraderie!

Be sure to bring your items to donate to the Grant Program Silent Auctions!  
Topics and presenters are subject to change, with a few still under construction.
Start planning for the Fall 2022 meeting. We are getting a nice lineup of presenters who could not join us this time around but are coming in November!

Please Register Early – Registration Form for Spring KHPA Conference is also available at www.kansashoneyproducers.org for your convenience using PayPal:

Name __________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip __________________________________________________
Phone _______________ Email ________________________________

Others attending the meeting with you __________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

KHPA Membership – 1 Year (be sure your dues are current) $15.00 __________
(Membership can be for the entire Family, with One Vote Per Family)

Meeting Registration: Prices below are Per Person
Both Days – Includes Friday Lunch & Dinner and Saturday Lunch $72.00 X ___ = _________
Friday with Lunch & Dinner $61.00 X ___ = _________
Friday with Lunch only $41.00 X ___ = _________
Saturday with Lunch $41.00 X ___ = _________

Donation $________
Total $________

Remit Payment to: Kansas Honey Producers Assn or KHPA
Robert Burns, 7601 W, 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission, KS 66202

Robert may be contacted at: 913-481-3504 rburnshoney@gmail.com
Or conveniently register through PayPal at www.kansashoneyproducers.org
Bylaws of The Kansas Honey Producers Association

Article I - Name
Sec. 1 - Name: The name of this organization is and shall be known as The Kansas Honey Producers Association from here referred to as the KHPA.

Article II - Official Representation

The KHPA shall designate one person as representative for the purpose of receiving legal correspondence. This delegated responsibility will generally fall to the President, but another Executive Committee member may accept responsibility for correspondence.

Article III - Order of Business

The order of business at the regular general business meeting shall consist of:
Call to order by the President
Introduction of visitors
Approval of minutes of the previous meeting
Treasurer’s report
Officers’ report
Reports of standing committees and Regional Directors
Unfinished business
New business
Election and/or installation of officers (as needed)
Adjournment

Article IV - Regional Directors

Sec.1 - For the purposes of electing regional directors to the KHPA Executive Committee, the state shall be divided into five (5) regions of similar climate and needs. The regions shall be:
  • West: Kansas Nebraska border, Kansas Oklahoma border, West of US Highway 183.
  • North Central: North of Kansas Highway 4, East of US Highway 183, West of US Highway 77
  • South Central: South of Kansas Highway 4, East of US Highway 183 West of US Highway 56/77
  • Northeast: North of Kansas Highway 68 to Osage City and North of US Highway 56, East of US Highway 77
  • Southeast: South of Kansas Highway 68 to Osage City and South of US Highway 56, East of US Highway 56/77

Beekeepers residing on a line or in a split county may choose which regional meetings they wish to attend.

Sec. 2 - Each Regional Director shall be nominated by members of that region in attendance at the regular KHPA meeting. The election of the Regional Director shall take place following the election of officers during the general business meeting. All members in good standing and present shall vote upon each nomination of the Regional Director. Only one vote per membership.

Sec. 3 - The Regional Director shall be aware of the honey promotion needs and beekeeping needs in that region and shall make such reports at the meetings of the Executive Committee and to the general membership in The Cappings and at the regular KHPA meeting

Sec. 4 - The Regional Director shall promote KHPA meetings and educational activities throughout his/her region.

Sec. 5 - Terms of the five Regional Directors shall be staggered so that two or three Regional Directors are elected each year. The secretary of the KHPA shall make it known which Regional Directors’ terms are expiring in any given year. Elections for the Northeast, North Central and Western Regional Director shall take place in odd years. Elections for Southeast, South Central Director shall take place in even years.
Article V-Promotion of Kansas Honey and Beekeeping

Sec. 1 - The KHPA may make use of various opportunities at flower and garden shows, trade shows, and other occasions for the promotions of honey and beekeeping products as deemed advisable. Consent and funding shall be obtained by a vote of the Executive Committee at a regularly held meeting or special meeting called by the president.

Sec. 2 - The Kansas Honey Producers Association may establish and maintain a Kansas Honey Queen Program or Honey Ambassador to promote honey at various activities and occasions. The Kansas Honey Queen/Ambassador Program shall be established by vote of the Executive Committee at a regularly held meeting and shall be under the direction of the Third Vice President of the Association. The Third Vice President may solicit assistance in selection and management of candidates. A budget will be established with the Executive Committee and the Treasurer to manage expenses.

Sec. 3 - The KHPA may conduct classes in general or specific areas of beekeeping in colony management either alone or with the assistance of one or more local/regional beekeeping organizations. Permission to establish and fund classes shall be obtained from the Executive Committee at a regularly held meeting or special meeting called by the president. Any program using the name of the KHPA or the name of any Regional Area, such as Northeastern Area Kansas Honey Producers, shall have the permission of the Executive Committee and shall have the program approved by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 4 - The KHPA may designate one or more persons to serve as a legislative committee for the purpose of securing beneficial legislation. The duties of the Legislative Committee shall be established and reviewed periodically by the Executive Committee. Committee reports shall be made to the members at the regular KHPA meeting and other appropriate opportunities. Funding and general directions shall be obtained through the Executive Committee members.

Article VI-Communications

Sec. 1 - The official publication of the KHPA shall be “The Cappings.”

Sec. 2 - The newsletter editor’s duties shall include:
- The newsletter will be published quarterly
- The newsletter will carry information regarding upcoming meetings
- The editor will secure accurate membership information from the KHPA treasurer
- The editor will provide a copy of “The Cappings” to each member in good standing; either through US mail or electronic means.

Sec. 3 - KHPA web page and Webmaster requirements. [http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org) will be the official web listing for the KHPA website. The webmaster will maintain up-to-date contact information for current officers, meeting dates, and information beneficial to the general membership. The webmaster will secure passwords with two (2) other Executive Committee members to prevent access to the website being lost.

Article VII-Beekeeper of the Year

An ad hoc committee appointed by the KHPA President may select the “Beekeeper of the Year” annually.

Article VIII-Bee Yard Operation Guidelines

Sec. 1 - The KHPA will own and maintain beehives located at various managed bee yards. A State Bee Yard Coordinator shall be appointed annually by the KHPA Executive Committee to assist the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Vice President in overseeing and coordinating those State Bee yards. Reports from the bee yard managers shall be submitted to the State Bee Yard Coordinator for a final summary. A final summary shall be submitted to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Vice President in time for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Vice President to present at the Fall KHPA Executive Committee.
Sec. 2 - The goal of the State Bee yards is to produce honey and other hive products to be sold at the Kansas State Fair. Any surplus honey may be sold at the discretion of the 2nd Vice President.

Sec. 3 - Complete hive and bees may be donated to a State Bee yard to apply for an individual Life Membership. (See Article IX, Sec. 1, KHPA Life Membership Criteria). All hives donated by individuals in exchange for life membership in the association will remain the sole property of the KHPA.

Sec. 4 - The 2nd Vice President will transfer funds from the State Fair budget to the General Fund budget equal to the annual dues for each life membership.

Sec. 5 - Additional hives may be added to the State Bee Yard as deemed necessary by the 2nd Vice President and or State Bee Yard Coordinator by majority vote of the KHPA Executive Committee. Funds for additional hives may come from the State Fair Budget.

Sec. 6 - Repairs, replacement of bees, new queens or other maintenance expenses will be discussed with the 2nd Vice President and/or State Bee Yard Coordinator prior to any action. These expenses shall be funded through the KHPA State Fair Account. Any anticipated repairs should be included in the annual Fall report presented to the KHPA Executive Committee.

Sec. 7 - All equipment shall meet requirements as specified in Article IX, Sec 1, KHPA Life Membership Criteria.

Sec. 8 - Liability insurance for hives owned by the KHPA will be covered through the blanket policy maintained by the KHPA.

Sec. 9 - The State Yard Operators will serve on a voluntary basis, as approved by the KHPA Executive Committee. Operators shall be current members in good standing in the KHPA. Annually, the operator’s contract will be reviewed, the yard records audited, and contracts reassigned for the following production year.

Sec. 10 - The State Yard operator’s report shall include the following:
- Number of hives in production
- Any empty equipment
- Quality and condition of hives, woodenware
- Quality of honey provided to the association for sale at the State Fair.
This report shall be submitted to the State Yard Coordinator at least one week prior to the KHPA fall meeting to be included in any permanent records.

Sec. 11 - A bee yard manager will be compensated for work associated in maintaining the bee yard and honey production with a 50% share of all honey products produced by the KHPA hives and all beeswax cappings and surplus bees beyond those needed to the KHPA equipment filled and in production.

Sec. 12 - Bee yard managers will use best practices to maintain his/her yard. Contracts may be withdrawn, and bees collected if inappropriate management is evident. If the bee yard manager is unable to fulfill his/her contract, he/she shall notify the State Bee Yard Coordinator and all hives will be collected and redistributed to other KHPA yard locations until a new yard can be established.

Sec. 13 Packaging and or bottling of honey will be under the direction of the 2nd Vice President.

\[ \text{Kansas Honey Producers Association State Bee Yard Operation Guidelines and Contract} \]

\begin{quote}
(name) agrees to manage (number) colonies for the purpose of honey production for the Kansas Honey Producers Association (KHPA) for the (year) honey season.
\end{quote}

Hive location:

(Approximate location/address/GPS coordinates of hives/driving directions/landowner contact info).
He/She agrees to manage hives using best practice models to keep the hives healthy and as productive as possible. Production from managed hives will be divided as described above. He/She shall permit an inspection of KHPA hives/yard by the 2nd Vice President, State Yard Coordinator or other appointed officer as deemed necessary.

_________________________________________ (signature) ___________________ (date)
State Yard Operator

_________________________________________ (signature) ___________________ (date)
2nd Vice President

_________________________________________ (signature) ___________________ (date)
State Bee Yard Coordinator

Bee Yard Report for ___________________ (year).

• Number of hives in production ____________
• Pounds of honey produced _______________
• Pounds of honey provided for State Fair or association/KHPA use _______________
• Comb or other hive products produced ____________________________________
• Empty equipment (list):

Estimated needs for next season (wood ware, foundation, bees, queens):

Article IX- KHPA Life Membership Criteria

Sec. 1- KHPA annual members may become lifetime members by donating a complete beehive to KHPA for use in the State Bee Yards. The honey produced in the KHPA managed bee yards is sold at the Kansas State Fair. Money generated through honey sales is paid to the general fund to cover the life members’ annual dues.

Sec. 1a- Applying members shall provide the following equipment
• 2 deep Langstroth-style 10 frame brood supers (9 5/8”)
• 3 medium Langstroth-style 10 frame supers (6 5/8”)
• New frames and foundation necessary to fill each super for a minimum of 50 frames and foundation. The State Bee Yard Coordinator will provide type and preference.
• Hive bottom board
• Telescoping cover
• Inner Cover
• Minimum of three (3) pounds of live bees including a queen

Sec. 1b- All woodenware must be commercially manufactured and be in NEW, UNUSED CONDITION. Exterior surfaces must be latex primed and painted white or other light color. Any alternative exterior finish must have the approval of the State Bee Yard Coordinator

Sec. 1c- Bees for the Bee Yards, including queens, will be purchased by the State Bee Yard Coordinator. The State Bee Yard Coordinator will contact the member with the total cost including delivery. To complete the requirements for lifetime membership the donor will promptly pay the KHPA for the cost of the bees.

Sec. 1d- Delivery of a hive to one of the State Bee Yards will be the responsibility of the donor under the direction of the State Yard Coordinator.

Sec. 1e- Life membership shall begin January 1 of the following year provided all requirements have been satisfactorily fulfilled.

Article X- Addendum

Sec.1- All matters not covered by the constitution and bylaws shall be covered by resolutions recorded in the minutes of regular or special meetings of the KHPA.

(revised 1/22/2022)
CONSTITUTION OF THE KANSAS HONEY PRODUCERS

PREAMBLE

To better promote the use and marketing of honey, to promote better beekeeping practices within the State of Kansas, and to increase harmony and cooperation among beekeepers, we, as members of the beekeeping and honey producing industry in the State of Kansas, do hereby join together and establish this Constitution and Bylaws. KHPA is committed to an atmosphere free of harassment or discrimination because of gender expression, race, religion, ancestry, physical disability or political affiliation.

ARTICLE I-NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Kansas Honey Producers Association (KHPA).

ARTICLE II-PURPOSE

This organization shall be a not-for-profit entity designed to:
• Advance and foster the interests of Kansas honey producers by promoting honey and other bee-related products
• Secure beneficial legislation
• Develop a spirit of mutual encouragement and cooperation
• Increase knowledge of bees and beekeeping practices
• Invite into membership all beekeepers residing within or managing bees within the State of Kansas
• Promote and protect all pollinators.

ARTICLE III-MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1- Any person interested in apiculture and who agrees with the purpose of this association may apply for membership.
Sec. 2- The membership dues of the KHPA may be set at any regular meeting and shall take effect the following January 1st. Membership dues are payable by January 31st of each year and are considered delinquent after that date.
Sec 2a - Memberships may be obtained as either an Individual or as a Family Membership. Individual Membership is for one person. More than one person per household may obtain an individual Membership. Each person in the household must obtain an Individual Membership to have the privileges of voice and vote on KHPA matters and the possibility of being considered for any elected positions.
Sec. 2b - Family Membership is one membership for all persons living in a household. All persons in the household with a Family Membership have a voice at all KHPA meetings, but there is one vote per Family Membership and each Family Membership shall be counted as one person for purposes of quorum and majority votes.
Section 3- Provision may be made for Life Membership to be granted. Guidelines for Life Membership may be set or revised at any regularly called meeting of the Association.
Sec. 4 - Provision may be made for Youth, Complimentary, or other types of special memberships as deemed necessary by approval of membership at any regular meeting. These are non-voting memberships.

ARTICLE IV-OFFICERS

Sec. 1 - The officers of the KHPA shall be:
President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Five Regional Directors:
   Western
   North Central
   South Central
   Northeast
   Southeast
The Cappings Editor. The editor of The Cappings will be appointed annually by the President and shall be a voting member of the Executive Board. The immediate Past President shall be a voting member of the Executive Board.
All shall be legal residents of the State of Kansas and at least 18 years of age at the time of election. Regional Directors shall reside in the area they represent. The Elected Officers, Regional Directors and The Cappings Editor and immediate Past President shall make up the 13-member Executive Committee.

Sec.2 - The term of each officer shall be two years or until a successor is duly elected and installed. Terms shall expire on alternating years to provide continuity of leadership. Regional Directors may be nominated by their respective regions and elected by the general membership. Regional Directors will serve for a maximum of three (3) consecutive two-year terms for a total of six years. Regional directors may be re-elected to their designated area after a hiatus of at least two years.

Sec. 2a- Elections shall take place at the Fall KHPA meeting.

Odd years:
- President
- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Northeast Regional Director
- North Central Regional Director
- Western Regional Director

Even Years:
- 1st Vice President
- 3rd Vice President
- Secretary
- Southeast Regional Director
- South Central Regional Director

Sec. 3 - Officer Duties

President:
- Preside at the Bi-Annual KHPA meetings
- Preside over KHPA Executive Committee meetings
- Call special meetings as needed
- In charge of all organization business
- Serves as Ex Officio Member of all committees
- Oversees the general work of the organization

First Vice President:
- Program Chairperson
- Works closely with the President and other officers
- To become president in the event of death, removal from office or resignation of the president.
- To act as president in case of absence or physical disability of the president.
- Report to the Executive Committee and general membership.
- Develop an operating budget for the office of First Vice President

Second Vice-President
- Provide oversight during the Kansas State Fair of the KHPA Honey Booth
- Coordinate the annual Honey Show at the Kansas State Fair
- Provide oversight, guidance and serve as liaison for the state apiary operations.
- Report to the Executive Committee and general membership.
- Develop an operating budget for the office of Second Vice President

Third Vice President:
- Coordinate and direct any KHPA promotional activities
- Oversee KHPA fundraising activities
- Submit articles or notices to national or local beekeeping publications and media for the promotion of the KHPA
- Oversee or be liaison person for booths, presentations, or exhibits supported by the KHPA. (This could include a honey queen or ambassador)
- Oversee and serve as liaison for the youth/or other scholarship or educational grant programs funded by the KHPA.
- Report to the Executive Committee and general membership
- Develop an operating budget for the office of Third Vice President
Secretary:
- To keep a written record of the proceedings of all meetings of the KHPA
- Record the results of all votes.
- Handle assigned correspondence
- Assist with registration at meetings.
- Report to the Executive Committee and general membership

Treasurer:
- To receive and keep an accurate record of all monies for the association
- To pay all bills allowed by the KHPA or by the Executive Committee in accordance with the approval from the president.
- Assist the Executive Committee with the development and approval of the annual budget presented at the spring meeting.
- Budgeted items will include expenses related to the Kansas State Fair, programs, promotions, scholarships, grants and special activities.
- Monitor program expenditures. (No officer or program may extend their budget by more than 10% without the express permission of the Executive Committee.)
- Complete any and all financial statements required by the Internal Revenue Service or other governing agency.
- Work closely with the Secretary and Editor of the KHPA official newsletter, The Cappings.
- Maintain and provide accurate membership information.
- Assist the secretary during registration at meetings and receive registration fees.
- Report to the Executive Committee and general membership.

Regional Directors:
- Represent the needs of their respective areas to the Executive Committee during committee meetings.
- At the discretion of the President, a nominating committee will be selected from the Regional Directors to fill officer vacancies.
- At the discretion of the President, two or three Regional Directors will conduct an annual audit of the Treasurer’s records.
- Report to the Executive Committee.

The Cappings editor:
- Published quarterly newsletter
- Provide information regarding upcoming meetings.
- Provide information to the KHPA website.
- Secure accurate membership information from KHPA treasurer.
- The editor will provide a copy of The Cappings to each member in good standing either through US mail or electronic means.
- Report to the executive committee.

ARTICLE V- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1 - The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the KHPA, the editor of The Cappings as an Ex Officio voting member, and the immediate Past President as a voting member.
Sec. 2 – Seven (7) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.
Sec. 3 – The Executive Committee shall have the power to transact all business between meetings of the KHPA. The Executive Committee may adopt, direct, or make such policies that are deemed necessary during such periods. Business meetings may be conducted in person, electronically, or virtually so long as all members participating in such meetings can communicate with one another at the time of such meeting. Participation in such a meeting constitutes presence in person at such meeting. Approval of said meeting may be accomplished via electronic communication.
Sec. 3a - The President shall be the only officer to call special meetings. Only the business specified in the call shall be transacted.
Sec. 3b - If a member of the Executive Committee feels it worthy to call such a meeting, that member shall make that request of the President. The President will notify all members of the Executive Committee.
Sec. 3c – A quorum of the Executive Committee will be required to vote on any items of business needing action during the special meeting.
Sec. 4- The Executive Committee shall meet prior to the general Bi-Annual meeting of the KHPA to establish the general business meeting agenda and to facilitate transactions during the business meetings.
Sec. 4a – A member of the KHPA may ask to have an item of business added to the Executive Committee’s agenda prior to the Executive Committee’s meeting held prior to the general meeting.
Sec. 4b - The President is at liberty to invite other persons of interest to the Executive Committee. That included but is not limited to; webmaster, State Yard Coordinator, past presidents, and other established committee members.
Sec. 4c- KHPA members may request an audience with the Executive Committee by contacting the President prior to the executive Committee meeting to discuss concerns or issues related to the management of the association.  
Sec. 5 - The Executive Committee shall prepare for presentation the proposed budget for the KHPA during the general business meeting.  
Sec. 6 – Any member of the Executive Committee missing two or more consecutive meetings shall be considered for grounds for removal from office.

ARTICLE VI – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the KHPA shall coincide with the calendar year.

ARTICLE VII – GOVERNMENT

Sec. 1 – The KHPA shall be governed by rules and regulations established by a majority of members present and voting at a regular or specially called meeting.  
Sec. 2 – Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall serve as a guide for the business meeting, voting, and discussion.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

Sec. 1 – There shall be at least one regularly called meeting of the KHPA each year. Under normal circumstances, two regular meetings shall be held each calendar year: one in the spring, and one in the fall.  
Sec. 2 – The regular meeting shall be held at a time and place designed by the Executive Committee. The time and place of said meeting shall be published in print or digitally not less than 30 days before the meeting date in the official KHPA’s publication or as a special edition notification.  
Sec. 3 – The Executive Committee shall have the power to call special meetings when deemed necessary. The membership shall receive notification of a special meeting 10 days prior to the meeting through the official KHPA publication and posted on the KHPA website.  
Sec. 4 – Ten (10) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at a regular business meeting.  
Sec. 5 – The general business meeting shall follow the agenda provided in the Bylaws, Article III.  
Sec. 6 – All matters to be submitted to the regular meeting shall be submitted in advance to the Executive Committee for consideration. The President shall have the privilege to ruling out-of-order any matters brought before the meeting contrary to this provision.  
Sec. 7 - Except otherwise provided in the Constitution and Bylaws, all matters shall be decided by majority of those present and entitled to vote.  
Sec. 8 – In the case of a special meeting, only those matters for which the meeting was called may be discussed and acted upon.  
Sec. 9 – Only members in good standing, that is having paid their dues for the current year, shall be allowed the privilege of voice and or voting at the meetings.

ARTICLE IX – ELECTION

Sec. 1- At the meeting of the Executive Board held prior to the general meeting, the president shall appoint a nominating committee of not less than three (3) Regional Directors to secure a slate of officers.  
Sec. 2 – Only those members in good standing shall be permitted to vote.  
Sec. 3 – Candidates for any office of the KHPA must be a member in good standing for at least one year prior to the election.  
Sec. 4 – A candidate must be at least 18 years of age and a current resident of Kansas at the time of voting.  
Sec. 5 – Election of officers shall be in sequence of officers and by written ballot or voice vote. If there is but one nominee for an office presented by the Nominating Committee, and no further nominations from the floor by general consent, the written ballot may be dispensed and a voice vote for the slate of officers may be taken. Any voice votes not resulting in a clear winner may be determined by written ballot. If there is more than one nominee for an office, a separate ballot for such office shall be taken. To be elected to office, a candidate must receive a majority of votes casted in the election.  
Sec. 6 – At the time of election, opportunity shall be given for nominations from the floor for each office. Consent of all nominees must be obtained. The nominees must be in good standing and have been a member of the KHPA for at least one year.  
Sec. 7 – Time of Election. Elections shall take place in accordance with Bylaws, Article III-Order of Business.  
Sec. 8 – In the event that an officer cannot complete his/her elected term due to resignation, long-term illness, removal, incapacitation, or death:  
• The First Vice President will serve in the Presidential capacity until the next general membership meeting where a successor may be nominated and elected.  
• For all other offices, the President will choose another Executive Committee member to complete the duties of the absent officer until the next general membership meeting where a successor may be nominated and elected.
Regional Directors will not be replaced until the next general meeting, allowing the members of the affected region the opportunity to nominate a candidate for their Regional Director.

ARTICLE X – PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Sec. 1- The KHPA may carry on such promotions of: honey, other beekeeping products and practices, and information on pollination practices as may be deemed advisable and may work with other agricultural commodity producer groups with the Kansas State Committee of Agriculture on mutually beneficial projects.

Sec. 2 – The KHPA may establish and maintain a Honey Ambassador or Scholarship Grant Program(s) for the purpose of education and honey production.

Sec. 3- The KHPA may work with national organizations on mutually beneficial projects. A member of the KHPA may be designated to attend one or more national meetings and bring back a report of decisions, recommendations, and actions taken to the KHPA.

ARTICLE XI – LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Sec. 1- The KHPA may encourage such legislation as it may be beneficial to beekeeping, honey sales, and honey quality. The KHPA shall work with government agencies at various levels to secure beneficial ruling and practices for honey production.

Sec. 2 – The KHPA may work with the Kansas State Committee of Agriculture and its division and with other producer groups representing agricultural commodities in Kansas to secure beneficial legislation.

ARTICLE XII- ASSOCIATION APIARY

Sec. 1- The KHPA may establish designated apiaries for the purpose of teaching beekeeping practices, the production of honey used in promotional booth(s) and for providing income for the various activities of the Association. The Second Vice-President, working in conjunction with the decisions made by the Executive Committee, shall govern the KHPA Apiary.

ARTICLE XIII- AMENDMENTS

Sec. 1- This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting. Proposed changes to the Constitution must be published not less than 30 days before the meeting date in the official KHPA’s publication, website or as a special edition notification.

Sec. 2 – This Constitution and accompanying Bylaws shall be in effect immediately upon the adoption at the regular meeting of the KHPA. All previous constitutions are repealed.

EDITORIAL RESOLUTION

The executive Board is authorized to correct article and section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the KHPA.

(Revised 1-22-2022)
2022 Kansas Honey Producer’s Association Membership Application

Name __________________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________
City______________________________________ State ________________________ Zip
Code______________________ E-mail Address __________________________________________________________________________

Membership Kansas Honey Producer’s Association per year (Jan.-Dec.) $15.00_____________
Additional family members wanting voting rights $1.00 per person $1.00 ______________________
Additional family member’s names: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Youth Membership (18 years of age or under) $7.50 __________________________
American Bee Journal 1 year subscription $24.65 __________________________
Bee Culture Magazine 1 year subscription $25.00 __________________________
Donation Amount __________________________ Total Due __________________________

Make checks payable to: KHPA or Kansas Honey Producer’s Association or pay online at www.kansashoneyproducers.org

Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66202 Phone# 913-481-3504 or email-rburnshoney@gmail.com

The Kansas Honey Producer’s Association is a non-profit IRC 501(c)5 agricultural-educational organization, run by dedicated volunteers, and supported primarily by membership dues (subscriptions). The IRC status means that the association is a tax-exempt organization. While donations are always welcome, they are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution. However, membership dues and subscriptions may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.