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## Letter From Your President

Welcome to May! Your bees are busy, which means so are you! Many have been catching swarms (sometimes their own!), splitting colonies, and adding new frames to occupy the bees. Nectar is coming in, so be ready to add boxes as needed!

The first nucs of the season have been delivered by the Coys and Harry Fulton. Other producers will be contacting you directly in the near future for nuc pick up!

If you have not had the opportunity to join us at a MABA Field Day, you have missed some great demonstrations and instruction! Read details from Gregg below. More fun and education in the MABA Apiary is forthcoming!

The MABA Board will be meeting in person 5/9/2022 at 6:30 in the Banquet Room, Concourse C, of the Agricenter, right before the meeting, for those interested.

See y'all soon!

Eric Caron  
President  
Memphis Area Beekeepers Association

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## Catch The Buzz...

**Next Meeting will be held on May 9th at 7-9pm at the Agricenter in The Banquet Room of Concourse C with Billy Joe Adair as the speaker. Info below.**

Agricenter Address: 7777 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, TN 38120

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 13, 2022  
Monthly Meeting  
7-9pm. Location TBA

July 11, 2022  
Monthly Meeting  
7-9pm. Location TBA

### BEEKEEPERS IN MAYMAY AND THE BEEKEEPER

- Keep up with the working bees by adding empty boxes – underestimating how much equipment you need could cost you a honey crop and could enhance the swarming impulse. Make sure to keep an empty box on top during this time of year. Swarming continues as new bees continue to overcrowd colonies. Attend Bee Meetings and update "Bloom Calendar" this will help the beekeeper

August 8, 2022  
Monthly Meeting  
7-9pm. Location TBA

September 12, 2022  
Monthly Meeting  
7-9pm. Location TBA

### BEEES IN MAY

- The hive is working at top speed, the Queen is laying and the bees are bringing in nectar and pollen. Give them room, give them space to store a honey crop. They'll be happy you did!
- Watch for Swarms!!

remember when the major honey flow occurs.  
Equipment, equipment, equipment! Manage to  
prevent swarming by adding equipment.

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## May Speaker for MABA

*Billy Joe Adair*

Adair Honey Farm is a small commercial beekeeping operation located just outside of Memphis in Moscow, TN. With apiaries all around the Memphis Metro area, they focus on honey production and raising quality bees.

Billy Joe Adair has grown his family and beekeeping business over the last 17 years. His “hobby on steroids” has changed their life completely. The business grew to support his family and now employs his son Jacob as a full time beekeeper.

The once mild-mannered structural engineer has morphed into a larger than life personality well known in the area for his beekeeping passion and generosity towards other beekeepers. A legacy passed on from his mentor Robert Hodum, who has himself helped many beekeepers in the area.

Billy Joe feels blessed and thankful to be doing the greatest job ever, beekeeping!

Speech Topic: t “How To Install Your Nuc & How to Expand”



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## Honey Caramel Coffee

YIELD: Makes 4 servings

### INGREDIENTS

4 T - honey

1 T - butter

1/4 cup - heavy cream

1 dash - salt

4 cups - milk

1 cup - espresso

1 tsp. - vanilla extract

whipped cream (optional)

### DIRECTIONS

For the honey caramel, add honey and butter into a small saucepan and heat over medium heat. Once the mixture dissolves, add the heavy cream and salt. Bring to a boil, stirring until mixture becomes a creamy caramel. Keep warm.

In a separate saucepan, heat milk over low-medium heat and bring to a boil. Add espresso and allow to heat through.

Pour drink into four separate mugs. Add 1 T of the honey caramel into each drink and stir. Top with whipped cream if desired and drizzle more honey caramel on top of the whipped cream before serving.



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## National Honey Board Report

MISSISSIPPI: Beekeepers have been splitting up hives and purchasing Queens to increase hives and getting bees out to get a good Spring flow this

## Propolis

“Suddenly propolis is being talked of as a new medicine rather than a nuisance. It has become a bridge

year. The weather has been either a blessing or a curse this year with lots of wind, rain, and freezing temps in March. Beekeepers are optimistic that plenty of feed will be available, and quality is good as well as a nice color.

**ARKANSAS:** During the month of March temperatures were well above normal across most of the state. Precipitation during March was above normal across the northern part of the state. The southern part of the state was seeing unusual below normal conditions. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor website, Arkansas had normal soil moisture across the Northern part of the state and moderate drought conditions across the central and southern part of the state for March. No supply chain issues were reported. Too few prices exist to establish a current market price for wholesale white honey.

**TENNESSEE:** Tennessee Beekeepers are reporting high losses, mostly due to viruses and starvation. Recent cold snaps have resulted in heavy losses due to starvation in colonies that had brood areas too large for the smaller cluster to keep the brood warm while still accessing nearby food stores. Red maples are reblooming in some areas across the state after freezing out earlier in the year. Redbud and elm are in full bloom. Forsythia, dandelions, speedwell, henbit and deadnettle are all in bloom and producing nectar and pollen. Farmers markets are opening across the state and beekeepers should be out in force selling their honey.

## From the Apiary

April has brought Spring beekeeping into full focus mode. Weekly inspection results show bees' foraging activity, and brood production kick into high gear. Fluctuating wet cool weather patterns test the beekeeper's hive management skills. Warm sunny days brought the official start of swarm season, bringing focused attention to address crowded conditions. Making hive splits from located swarm queen cells, and providing egg laying room by moving open comb close to the brood cluster are constant April management processes. April 23rd marked the first week of a major nectar flow. Honey supers will continually be added throughout May. We had great member participation turnout for the NUC installation, and caged queen hive split demonstration. A special shout-out thank you to all the entire apiary committee, the instructors, and officer support for the advanced preparation of the most successful 4/23/22 field day .

Good Beekeeping,  
Gregg Tingle

between traditional natural medicines/herbal medicines and pharmaceutical medicines and is proving to be a real contender in the fight against antibiotic resistance, now defined by WHO as a global health challenge.”

### About the Author

James Fearnley has been researching the amazing properties of propolis for over 30 years working with universities around the world, publishing two books: Propolis: Natural Healing from the Hive Souvenir Press and Propolis and Oral Health - Dispensary Press.

James has travelled the world too collecting propolis samples to analyse back home in Whitby North Yorkshire, contributing to over 30 peer review journals exploring the many ways that propolis can help with human health.

TO SEE THE FULL ARTICLE VISIT  
<https://www.beeeculture.com/propolis-2/>

## American Bee Journal

### Report: Midwest

Tennessee's winter has been up and down, and heavy feeding has been needed. Demand for honey has in many cases outstripped supply.

Eastern Kentucky reports 60% losses, with heavy feeding needed for survivors. Heading toward spring, demand has been stronger than supply, for both honey and bees.

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For more information, please [click here](#) to contact us.

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