

Learn how to keep bees with

Hands-On Beekeeping Lessons

Intended for established beekeepers or beginners who feel they would benefit from the hands-on experience. Each lesson will consist of topic discussion in the beekeeper's "honey house" and practical demonstrations in the apiary. Everyone will have the opportunity to work with colonies guided by an experienced beekeeper. Everyone will have the opportunity to ask questions about specific problems. Lessons are informal and enjoyable. Learn from observation and actually working with honey bee colonies. Educate yourself. Meet other beekeepers. Help the honey bee.

Six Sessions. All on Saturdays from 12 noon til 4:00 PM. Attend any or all sessions.

March 27 - Managing Colonies of Honey Bees: Introduction/review of beekeeping essentials; different types of equipment and their correct use (including a Top Bar Hive); spring management of honey bee colonies.

April 24 - Manipulating Colony Reproduction: Swarms – anticipating, controlling, catching, utilizing; harvesting queen cells and royal jelly; preparing for the major nectar flows.

May 22 – Dividing Colonies: Raising your own queens; making up splits and nucleus colonies; maximizing your honey crop.

June 26 – Harvesting Products of the Hive: Taking honey off the hives; extracting and processing honey; collecting pollen, propolis and beeswax. Marketing your honey.

July 31 – Maintaining Healthy Honey Bees: Diseases and pests and their controls; making choices and dealing with the mite problem.

August 28 – Preparing for the Winter: Anticipating your colonies' needs; honey bee nutrition and feeding colonies; a beekeeper's library and resources for continuing education.

Cost: \$15.00 per session or \$75.00 for all six sessions (pre-paid)

Location: 12703 Blymire Hollow Road, Stewartstown, PA 17363

For more information: DCPapke@aol.com or 717-246-2339

Host/Instructor: David Papke, past president of Central Maryland Beekeeper's Association, has kept bees for over 30 years in PA, MD, OH and in Central America as a Peace Corps Volunteer. Often asked to speak about his beekeeping experiences or to teach various aspects of beekeeping, Mr. Papke keeps bees in York County, PA, providing pollination services to growers and producing honey for the local market.