

My oldest brother Stan, from Spanish Fork, introduced me to the beekeeping program. He has owned hives for two years and has been teaching me about bees. This has started my growing interest in beekeeping. What I already know is that there are three types of bees called workers, drones, and one queen bee per hive. I find it fascinating that smoke will mask attack senses so it is easier to reach the honey. The following information about bees is what I want to watch for and would like to learn about. Also, in the future, how I will work with bees and tracking data of the hives.

Some of the things I will be watching for will be the larva stages, as they will show the progress of the hive. Also, I will look for how much honey is in the hive to monitor the productivity. Seeing disease or mites will alert me to any problems that would require fixing. In the future, I will be excited to see the queen bee in my own hive. This progress and evolution of the hive will be a absorbing and fulfilling ownership. In scouting, I am working on my eagle project with 42 merit badges under my belt. I understand the work it takes to do a project from its roots to fruit. This same work ethic is needed in beekeeping.

I love to learn and discover new things. I feel I have a good start because of my brother, but I would like to learn more about bees personally. Some things that interest me are how to care for bees. Being responsible for my own bees will reflect on my everyday life. You cannot take care of bees without being dependable. Learning about their habits would increase my scientific mind. I think it would be remarkable to be an apiarist and a farmer.

Technology is one of my specialties. Keeping a record of what happens is vital to clear thinking when wanting to remember past experiences and helps to create future goals. I will blog and keep a personal log about how I have progressed with my bees. Blogging will let family, friends, and other beekeepers watch as I take care of the bees. This allows people to make comments after I post pictures and write down observations. I also know how to make movies that I can post on YouTube, which has a world audience.

I know that bees are an important component in the network of nature. People who know how to take of these creatures could really help me, because I don't know enough to succeed on my own. I plan on going to meetings to listen, learn, and ask questions. We never succeed in life on our own. My parents, family, and teachers are my mentors. They have traveled roads that I wish to follow.

Richard McShinsky

Each of the winners will receive the following to help them be successful beekeeper:

- Membership in the Utah County Beekeepers Association
- Free tuition for the Utah County Beekeepers Association Beginners Class
- Package of Bees (type of bee to be determined)
- State licensing fees (\$10)
- Complete Hive
 - Bottom Board
 - 2 Deep Supers with Frames and Foundation
 - Inner Cover
 - Telescoping Cover
 - Hive Tool
 - Helmet
 - Veil
 - Smoker
 - Smoker Fuel
 - Gloves
 - One Medium Honey super and Frames/Foundation
 - Queen Excluder

In turn, the participant can expect some expenses to be successful. They may be such things as:

- Additional Honey Supers and Frames
- Disease and parasite prevention
- Extraction equipment or rental fees
- Honey containers
- Others

Utah County Beekeepers Association Bee A Beekeeper Program Application and Contract

Name: Richard McShinsky - age 13

Address: 12927 S. 1480 E., Draper, UT

Phone: 801-576-9043

Email Address: richmcshinsky@gmail.com

Address where the Bees will be kept: 1050 S. Riverbottom Rd } next to
Spanish Fork, UT } Brothers
OR } Hives
In Draper, UT

Eligibility: The Bee a Beekeeper program is open to any student, grades 3-12 who is currently enrolled in a Utah County or Salt Lake County school (public or private).

Program Rules:

Equipment and Maintenance:

1. Bees, equipment and tools provided must be kept and cared for properly.
2. The participant and the Utah County Beekeepers Association will jointly own the bees, equipment, and tools until the conclusion of the program (one calendar year). At that point, they will become the property of the participant.
3. The participant agrees to pay any additional costs associated with the program.
4. If the participant moves from Utah or Salt Lake County or does not follow the provisions of this contract, they will forfeit their ownership to any bees, equipment or tools supplied by the Utah County Beekeepers Association.
5. The participant hereby acknowledges that the Utah County Beekeepers Association assumes no responsibility for any accident that may occur during my participation in the program.

Academic and Community Service

6. Participants will send a "Thank You" note to their sponsors and a copy of this letter will be provided to the Utah County Beekeepers Association.
7. Participants will supply two letters, i.e. June and October, to their sponsors indicating the progress of their hive. Follow the written requirement format.
8. Participants will supply at least two letters of progress, i.e. June and October, for the year to the Utah County Beekeepers Association. Follow the written requirement format.
9. Participants will attend at least three association meetings throughout the year (membership to the association is included for the duration of the program).
10. Two public speaking engagements which may include any of the following venues: association meetings, farm field days, county or state fairs, and/or school classrooms. Report given may follow the outline of the written requirement.

This contract is to be properly signed and returned to the Utah County Beekeepers Association by Friday, February 12th, 2010 along with the written portion.

Required Signatures:

Applicant: Richard McShinsky

Parent/Guardian: Lobby McShinsky