

# President's Letter August 8, 2019

Hello to All,

August already. Where has it gone? But there is good news...the knotweed bloom is just starting after a hard dearth. All of my hives are very light and for the first time in quite a while I fed this summer. But the end is in sight. And there is more!! For those of you using formic acid, the window may be opening on Wednesday with at least twelve consecutive days forecasted with temperatures at or below 85°. Perfect timing!!

Next, let me call your attention to the West Virginia Beekeepers Association Fall Conference in Fairmont scheduled for August 23-24 with guest speakers Dr. Jamie Ellis and Dwight Wells in addition to 18 breakout sessions to choose from. You can register online at [wvbeekeepers.org](http://wvbeekeepers.org) and early registration is open until August 19. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to expand your skills in sustainable beekeeping.

And now for the upcoming fall schedule. Save the date of WEDNESDAY, August 21 for the annual picnic. John will send out a notice with an RSVP so that we can accurately order the chicken. As you remember, last spring I requested topics for speakers, you gave me topics, and we were able to fulfill the requests. We start with our long time friend John Grafton on Thursday, September 19 speaking about preparing hives for winter and over wintering colonies. Then, on Thursday, October 17, attorney Paul McKay will be speaking to us about the legal aspect of beekeeping including your liability as a beekeeper, beekeeping contracts, and product liability. I am sure that he will have valuable information that all of us can use. We con