

Harmful Burning to Continue in the Flint Hills

By Craig Volland, Air Quality Chair

Smoke Management Plan. In November, the KDHE’s SMP Committee issued the first draft of its plan to resolve the problem of ozone-smog exceedances in eastern Kansas. The good news is we got the committee to admit that most of the burning is occurring in prime greater prairie-chicken (GPC) habitat. For this we applaud the extraordinary work of our volunteer analyst and computer jock, Duane Schrag. Duane is also known for his insightful articles on the Kansas environment written while he was a reporter for the Salina Journal.

The bad news is that the committee is taking the position that burning to keep woody plant species at bay is more important than addressing the impacts of that same burning on grassland birds. This is despite the fact that a US Fish and Wildlife Service program, which has “restored or enhanced” some 350,000 acres of Flint Hills prairie since 1992, primarily by removing invasive species, has not arrested the decline in the GPC population. The problem is that widespread, annual burning of grass and overstocking of cattle remove the cover needed by the GPC to successfully breed.

The Plan has three major elements:

- A ban on “non-essential” (read non-agricultural) burn-



ing in April;

- Development of a real-time meteorological communications network to advise landowners of the best time to burn. Compliance remains voluntary;

- Health advisories to warn the downwind public of bad air days from the burning.

In response to these health alerts Sierra Club members can hole up in their tightly sealed and weatherized homes; but it is not clear what everybody else is supposed to do.

The full text of our comment on the draft has been posted on our website (www.kansas.sierraclub.org) along with annotated bibliographies demonstrating the impacts of excessive burning and overgrazing on grassland birds and outlining alternative burning methods.

Flint Hills Legacy Conservation Area. Meanwhile the US Fish and Wildlife Service has issued their decision on the Environmental Assessment for the FHLCA. They decided

See Burning on page 5



inside

Greensburg Tour pg 4
Getting Wet and Muddy pg 5
Holiday Feasts that Heal the Earth pg 6
Scenes from the Political Season pg 11

Sierra Club info

Chapter Office

Sierra Club, Kansas Chapter
 c/o Craig Wolfe
 9844 Georgia
 Kansas City, KS 66109-4326
 913-299-4443
 info@kansas.sierraclub.org

National Headquarters

Sierra Club
 85 Second St., 2nd Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94105-3441
 415-977-5500

Legislative Director

Chris Cardinal,
 785-200-8010
 Chris@campaign.cc

Associate Regional Representative

Stephanie Cole
 913-906-9332
 Stephanie.Cole@sierraclub.org

Development Director

Lynate Pettengil
 785-331-0625
 Lynate@sbcglobal.net

Planet Kansas Newsletter & Website:

Send articles, events, outings and updates to Craig Wolfe at
 info@kansas.sierraclub.org

Chapter Members Holding

National Positions

- Yvonne Cather - Member of and Secretary for the Council of Club Leaders Executive Committee,



SIERRA CLUB
 FOUNDED 1892

www.kansas.sierraclub.org

888-7-SIERRA



America needs a smart energy policy that increases our energy security and protects the environment. There is a better way. Congress should pass legislation that cuts our country's dependence on oil, increases our use of clean, renewable energy sources like wind and solar power, protects our public lands, and modernizes the electricity grid to prevent future blackouts.

Join the Sierra Club today and add your voice to protect the planet.

Join today and receive a **FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



My Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 email _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club
 Please charge my MasterCard Visa AMEX Exp. Date ____/____/____

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT/LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.



Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club,**
 P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968

F94Q W 4600 1

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



Dec '10 / Jan '11

This holiday season



**give something
that means the world.**

Your purchase of a gift membership to Sierra Club preserves our natural resources, fights global warming, and uses very little energy.

It's also renewable.



visit www.sierraclub.org
and click on
Join, Renew, Give

contents

Harmful Burning to Continue in Flint Hills	Cover
Greensburg Tour	4
Getting Wet and Muddy	5
Eating As Though the Earth Matters	6
Holiday Feasts that Heal the Earth	6
Scenes from the Political Season	11
Chapter & Group Leaders	8
General Meetings	9
Sierra Club Outings	10
Committee Meetings	11
Calendar of All Events	12

Planet Kansas, the official publication of the Kansas Chapter of the Sierra Club, is published six times per year. Subscription is included in membership dues or is \$10 per year. Advertising rates are available upon request at info@kansas.sierraclub.org. We reserve the right to refuse advertising which conflicts with the tastes of our readers. Contributions of articles, letters to the editor, poems, original cartoons and photos are welcomed. All items must be sent electronically by email to info@kansas.sierraclub.org or disk to Craig Wolfe, 9844 Georgia, Kansas City, KS, 66109. We reserve the right to edit for length, clarity and taste. The Kansas Chapter of Sierra Club does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, ethnic origin, religious creed or sexual orientation. Views expressed herein reflect the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily those of Sierra Club, its staff or officers. All articles copyright by Kansas Chapter of Sierra Club unless otherwise indicated and may be reprinted as long as credit is given. Next deadline for submissions is January 15.



Dec '10 / Jan '11

Greensburg Tour

By Don Skokan

A group of Southwind Sierrans visited Greensburg, Kansas, in early October to participate in a tour of the area by Ruth Ann Wedel, Site Manager, Greensburg Greentown. Ruth Ann, shown in the first photo, is standing next to one of several giant “rain barrels,” at the new Kiowa County School, and explaining other green features to Ellie Skokan, trip leader, Tom Kneil, Bill Keltner, Christina Stephans, Yvonne Cather, Bruce Fuelling, Dorlan Bales, Kathryn Damiano, Donna Wygle and Don Skokan.

In addition to the school, the group also visited the new Kiowa County Memorial Hospital, the John Deere Dealership BTI-Greensburg, and the Silo Eco-Home. All of the new construction has taken place since the May, 2007, EF5 tornado which destroyed 90% of the existing homes and businesses. All of the buildings mentioned above are LEED Platinum certified, which is the highest rating for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

The John Deere Dealership has also built, with financing from USDA Rural Development and John Deere, a community wind farm of ten 1.25 MW wind turbines with a total capacity of 12.5 megawatts. According to a John Deere fact sheet, the Kansas Power Pool is purchasing energy from the project under a long-time power purchase agreement. John Deere Renewables is the owner and operator. They also have a 5 KW wind turbine located at their business, and have become the North American distributor for that particular model,



Dec '10 / Jan '11

**See Tour on
page 5**



Ruth Ann Wedel, Site Manager, Greensburg Greentown, stands next to one of several giant “rain barrels,” at the new Kiowa County School and explains other green features to Ellie Skokan, trip leader, Tom Kneil, Bill Keltner, Christina Stephans, Yvonne Cather, Bruce Fuelling, Dorlan Bales, Kathryn Damiano, Donna Wygle and Don Skokan



John Deere Renewables has a 5 KW wind turbine located at their business, and has become the North American distributor for that particular model, Endurance, at dealerships throughout the United States.

Getting Wet and Muddy!

Kanza Group Forms Stream Team

By Elaine Giessel, Water Quality Chair

This fall about a dozen members of the Kanza Group, with the assistance of Blue River Watershed Association (BRWA), organized a water quality monitoring group called the Kanza Stream Team (KST). BRWA, a Kansas City metro area not-for-profit, which educates the public on storm water management issues, has obtained grant funding to train a number of stream teams in Johnson County.

The goal of the KST is to provide opportunities for Kanza members to enjoy the outdoors, explore area streamways, raise awareness about storm water pollution and take appropriate personal actions to protect the environment.

The Kanza Group purchased a customized BRWA surface water testing kit following formal training of several of its members. Established testing protocols are used to measure air and water temperatures, pH, turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen and levels of phosphorus and nitrogen. BRWA is compiling the data from stream teams across Johnson County for future use.

Kanza member John Flavin has led on this effort. He serves as leader of the first sub-team, which is already sampling regularly at multiple stations along Little Cedar Creek in Ernie



From left to right: John Flavin, Barbara Adamson, Kate Delehunt (BRWA trainer), Mark Adamson

Miller Park in Olathe. It is anticipated that sub-teams may be created in other watersheds in Johnson County as more individuals complete their training. The Kanza test kit will be available on a check-out basis.

Guidelines for participating in Kanza Group water quality monitoring efforts are being drafted. Elaine Giessel of the Kanza ExCom will serve as the KST coordinator.

Get involved with the Kanza Stream Team! Send a note to KSTleader@gmail.com for details.



Tour, continued from page 4

Endurance, at dealerships throughout the United States.

We spent some time walking through the Kiowa County Memorial Hospital, which also has its own wind turbine, and is a state of the art green facility. It appears that Greensburg has, indeed, succeeded in reestablishing and improving on some very important infrastructure. What they obviously need now are more people and businesses to locate in their community. Hopefully, “the build it and they shall come” philosophy will prevail. They are to be commended for their determination to rebuild their community and, also, for having the vision to rebuild it green.

For more information on Greensburg, or to book a tour, call the GreenTown office at 620-723-2790, or visit www.greensburggreentown.org.



Burning, continued from Cover

there was no problem with showering landowners with public funds up to one third of their land value while not requiring any changes in their land management practices. USFWS has taken the position that placing any restrictions on burning and cattle stocking practices would discourage participation in the program.

There are many ranchers in the Flint Hills who care about wildlife, and some are using more benign burning techniques. The latest research on patch burning, for example, indicates that there would be minimal losses in cattle weight gain compared to existing practices. In any event, conservation easements are expressly designed to compensate landowners for any loss of earnings that might be caused by land use restrictions.

Strangely, USFWS responded to comments about damaging burning and stocking practices by saying that “the ranching culture” in the Flint Hills will provide “an appropriate fire and grazing regime for long-term sustainability.”

Romantic notions are not a good substitute for specific plans to address inappropriate land management practices. As presently designed the FHLCA is sadly misconceived and will likely result in a monumental waste of public funds.



Dec '10 / Jan '11

Holiday Feasts that Heal the Earth

By Judy Carman

The holidays are upon us. Decorations have been up for a while now—reminding us of the countdown and the coming excitement. It is an interesting time for environmentalists and others who are working to heal the world. It's such a mixed bag. On the one



hand, we are entering a time that is loaded with tradition, family expectations, and a huge emphasis on consumerism. As would-be earth rescuers, we have to look at cherished traditions that may hold good memories for us—and question them. How do these traditions affect the earth? What sort of pollution is produced by the extra travel; the lavish decorations; the buying of gifts made in China and transported here; the landfills bursting with non-recycled wrapping paper, bows, and broken toys; and all that food?

On the other hand, we want to enjoy the holidays along with everyone else—most of whom would rather we not remind them of the environmental consequences of our holiday behavior. But environmentalists are visionaries, looking forward to how we can create small green footprint holidays in harmony with nature. It is never more obvious that we are standing with one foot in the old paradigm and one foot in the new than at holiday time. We walk the razor's edge as we quietly swipe the wrapping paper out of the giant red plastic trash bag and hide it in our car (or bike) to recycle it later.

Of course we don't want to "spoil the party" by loudly announcing the eco-sins committed by our 95 year old uncle Cedric. Instead, with our actions more than our words, we can be a peaceful, joyful example of how to start a new tradition of a green, organic, fair-trade, nonviolent, peace-promoting, earth healing holiday season.

Of all the things we can do to promote this new tradition of true peace for people, animals, and the earth, the most far reaching action we can take will be what we choose to put on the table. All over the world the various year-end holidays echo the universal human longing for peace. Yet the meals of age-old traditions tend to be loaded with the meat, dairy and

eggs of animals who have certainly not lived or died in peace. Over the centuries such meals were symbols of wealth and power. For many of the world's poor, a meat laden meal symbolized a reprieve from poverty. That has certainly changed in the U.S. where animal

products now make up the bulk of American diets and waistlines regardless of one's wealth or lack thereof. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported recently that only 10.6% of Kansans daily consume the recommended two or more fruits and three or more vegetables each day. The highest percentage was only 20% in D.C. (AARP Bulletin, November, 2010). Good for McDonalds. Bad for us and the future of life on earth.



taken at Gentle Barn in California

It is during these holidays that "Peace on Earth" somehow becomes a shared dream, a hope, something that, at least for now, we can believe in and celebrate the possibility. Yet, when we take even the briefest of looks at animal agriculture in the world, we could not help but call it "hell on earth"—not just for the farmed animals, but for the land, for wildlife, and for our health and the health of our children. It is up to us to stop this agricultural engine of destruction, and we can. Of all the environmental challenges we have, this is the simplest to solve. It's a matter of choosing non-animal food at every meal. Here is that brief look at the rampant devastation caused by the animal food industries.

Air Pollution: By now you have heard about the 2006 United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's conclusion that animal agriculture contributes more greenhouse gases than all the cars, trucks, planes, and ships in the entire world combined. Also animal waste produces 80% of the ammonia emissions in the U.S., according to the EPA.

Water Pollution: The Audubon Society reports that over half of U.S. water is used to raise animals for food. The EPA states that animal agriculture excrement pollutes more water sources than all other industries combined. While human beings have sewage systems, animal farms are not required to have them. Instead, the manure and all its accompanying bacteria, drugs, and other contaminants fester in open air lagoons, percolate down into the ground and overflow during heavy rains. Of course, water pollution from slaughterhouses, tanneries, and fertilizer and pesticide industries add to the poisonous mess.

Poor Land Use: The USDA reports that 80% of agricultural land is used either to house animals or to grow their feed, and the Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that 30% of the earth's entire surface is used for livestock. Approximately 70% of grain grown in the U.S. is fed to animals—enough grain to end starvation worldwide.

Deforestation: The FAO considers animal agriculture a major cause of deforestation as huge companies take over tropical and other forests from nature and indigenous people, clear-cut the trees, and either grow grain for animals or run cattle on the eroding, damaged land that remains.



Decimation of Wildlife: The UN reports that such deforestation has caused the extinction of many plant and animal species in rainforest areas. Wildlife Services of the USDA, which is charged with protecting livestock from predators in the U.S., used taxpayer money to kill 1,642,823 animals in 2006 alone. They use steel jaw leg-hold traps, shooting from helicopters, and poisoning, among other cruel methods.

Fishing Hurts: Drift nets and other massive industrial fishing techniques devastate the coral reefs and the oceans themselves.

Clearly, the most powerful action we can take during this holiday season and into the New Year is the mother of all boycotts. The adoption of a vegan lifestyle, which is synonymous with nonviolence, and includes an animal-free diet, is the most effective tool any environmentalist can utilize.

As we continue our mission to reverse the destruction of our precious jewel of a planet, and create a new paradigm of tenderly caring for our earth home, let us make this holiday season one of hope. We can teach and foster new human traditions that reflect real joy and peace, reverence for all life, and a deep awareness of our sacred connection to the earth and all who live here.

I wish you the most beautiful of holidays. May all wrapping paper be recycled and may all beings find peace. May we work together in this new year to “be the change.”

A few peace filled recipes for your holiday meals:

The first two are compliments of Lawrence, KS, Chef Andre whose blog is www.shiftvegan.blogspot.com. The third recipe is from ivu.org. A long list of mouth watering holiday recipes can be found at ivu.org/recipes/holiday/index.html.

Pasta with Cashew Cream Sauce

- 1 large potato - small diced, 1/2 white onion - small diced, 1 tooth of garlic, 1/4 cup raw cashews,
- Salt to taste
- Add water to cover vegetables and simmer the above in sauce pan until the potatoes are soft, about 10 to 15 minutes if your dice is small. Put in blender or Vitamix and blend until smooth and creamy. Add a tablespoon of white wine if you like. Then add the following and lightly blend
- 1 cup cherry tomato (small pear red or yellow) and 3 fresh basil leaves
- Serve with a pound of your favorite pasta.

Tofu, Potato, Kale Bowl

This dish is not quite a soup and not quite a stew.

- can lite coconut milk, 1 can of water (use the coconut milk can), 1 tablespoon green curry paste,
- 2 teeth of garlic, pressed – minced, 1 cube of Rapunzel Bouillon, 4 medium sized potatoes cubed
- Simmer for about 15 minutes or until potatoes are just beginning to soften. Add the following and simmer for 2 minutes:
- 1 cup frozen corn, 1 bunch of kale coarsely chopped
- While the soup is cooking I take the following and spray with olive oil. I bake them on parchment at 400 degrees for 15 minutes. These are added at the end before serving:

- 2 pounds tofu large cubes (dusted with garlic powder and salt), 1/2 white onion
- 2 poblano peppers, cut in large pieces

Baked Pumpkin With Vegetable Pilaf

Serving Size: 4

- one 5- to 6-lb. pumpkin -- or other winter squash
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1 small onion -- diced
- 1 red bell pepper -- seeded and diced
- 1 small jalapeno pepper -- seeded and minced
- 1 small zucchini -- diced (about 1 1/2 cups)
- 2 tablespoons minced shallots
- 5 1/2 cups brown rice
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon turmeric
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups water
- 8 medium broccoli florets -- blanched
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro -- (optional)

To cook pumpkin:

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- With a sharp knife, cut a 4-inch lid off top of pumpkin.
- (Angle cut so lid goes back on more easily.)
- With a large spoon, scoop out seeds and stringy fibers; discard or reserve for another use.
- Cover hole with a sheet of foil and set pumpkin lid back on top.
- Place in a baking pan with 1/2-inch water; bake until inside is tender, 50 minutes to 1 hour.
- Remove from oven and keep warm.

Pilaf:

- Heat oil in a large saucepan.
- Add onion, peppers, zucchini and shallots.
- Saute until vegetables are tender, about 7 minutes.
- Stir in rice, raisins, black pepper, turmeric and salt; cook 1 minute more.
- Add water; cover and cook over medium-low heat until liquid is absorbed, about 45 minutes.
- Fluff pilaf with a fork and stir in broccoli and cilantro if desired.
- Spoon pilaf into pumpkin and cover with lid. (Discard foil.)
- Set stuffed pumpkin on a large platter in center of table.
- When serving pilaf, scrape inside of pumpkin with serving spoon and mix pumpkin into pilaf.
- Makes 4 servings.
- (If you double recipe, use 2 pumpkins, not 1 large pumpkin.)

Submitted by Judy Carman, M.A., Author of Peace to All Beings and co-author of The Missing Peace: The Hidden Power of our Kinship with Animals. and owner of a truck powered by used veggie oil. circleofcompassion.org, peacetoallbeings.com



Dec '10 / Jan '11



Chapter & Group Leaders

Groups are the local body of the Kansas State Chapter

Chapter Executive Committee

Officers, Committee Chairs

*Elected ExCom member; **Appointed ExCom member,

Group Representative to Chapter, *Officer/Committee Chair

Frank Drinkwine*, Chapter Chair, Fundraising Chair, Finance Chair, (913) 385-0385, frank.drinkwine@kansas.sierraclub.org

Yvonne Cather*, Vice Chair, Council Delegate, (316) 522-4741, yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org

Tom Kneil****, Secretary, (316) 744-1016, thomas.kneil@kansas.sierraclub.org

Scott Smith***, Treasurer, Compliance Officer, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net

Gary Anderson*, Endangered Species Chair, (785) 246-3229, ganderson1963@ksbroadband.net

Carol Barta*, Leader Training Chair, (785) 410-8606, snowsage54@hotmail.com

Steven Baru*, Sprawl Chair, Transportation Chair, Council Delegate Alternate, (913) 814-0583, steve.baru@sierraclub.org

Elaine Giessel*, Environmental Justice Chair, Environmental Education Chair, Water Quality Chair, (913) 888-8517, elaine.giessel@kansas.sierraclub.org

Craig Lubow*, Conservation Chair, Global Warming Chair, Legal Co-Chair, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org

Joe Spease*, Legislative Chair, Energy Co-Chair, (913) 492-2862, spease4kc@everestkc.net

Craig Wolfe*, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Communications Chair, Membership Chair, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org

David Kirkbride***, Outings Chair, Southwind Group Rep, (316) 945-072, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

Bob Sommer***, Political Chair, Kanza Group Rep, (913) 681-5211, rsommer@kc.rr.com

Bill Griffith****, Legal Co-Chair, Energy Co-Chair, (913) 772-8960, bill.griffith@kansas.sierraclub.org

Craig Volland****, CAFO Chair, Trade Chair, Agriculture Chair, Air Quality Chair, (913) 788-7336, volland@kansas.sierraclub.org

(Kanza con't)

Mike Miller*, Membership Chair, Air Quality Chair, (913) 362-2600, mrmiller1@mindspring.com

Ed Rowe*, ExCom Member, (913) 642-1371, roweed@prodigy.net

Bob Sommer*, Political Chair, Group Chapter Rep, (816) 898-1100, rsommer@kc.rr.com

Joe Spease*, Legislative Chair, Energy Chair, (913) 492-2862, spease4kc@everestkc.net

Craig Wolfe*, Auction Chair, Communications Chair, Program Chair, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org

Southwind Group (Wichita)

Dave Kirkbride*, Chair, Chapter/Group Delegate, (316) 945-0728, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

Ellie Skokan*, Vice Chair, Conservation Chair, Outings Chair, Environmental Justice Chair, (316) 744-0033, ellie_skokan@yahoo.com

Tom Kneil* Secretary, Alternate Chapter Delegate, Global Warming Chair, (316) 744-1016, Thomas.kneil@kansas.sierraclub.org

Yvonne Cather****, Treasurer, Energy Chair, (316) 522-4741, Yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org

Elizabeth Bishop* Political Chair, Sprawl Chair, Parks Chair, (316) 684-0988, elizdar@earthlink.net

Stuart Bolt* Fund Raising Chair, (316) 682-4722, stuart.bolt@kansas.sierraclub.org

Deborah Gavfert*, Membership Chair, Publicity Chair, (316) 733-5102, dsgavfert@cox.net

Larry Ross*, Transportation Chair, (316) 685-5681, larry.ross@kansas.sierraclub.org

Kathryn Buck****, Program Chair, (316) 789-0739, justkathrynb@hotmail.com

Bill Cather****, Legal Chair, (316) 522-4741, bill.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org

Topeka Group

Gary Anderson*, Chair, Program Chair, (785) 246-3229, ganderson1963@ksbroadband.net

Jim Tuchscherer*, Vice Chair, (785) 272 5633, jimtuch@earthlink.net

Bill Cutler*, Secretary, Treasurer, Chapter Group Rep Alternate, (785) 379-9756, spudspa@yahoo.com

Anita Frank*, Conservation Chair, (785) 273-5305, afrank16@cox.net

Phil Morse*, Political Chair, Energy Chair, (785) 273-3613, p.morse@sbcglobal.net

Paul Post*, Membership Chair, Outings Chair, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com

Susan Schmitz*, ExCom Member, (785) 273-4021, sujaha@aol.com

Jack Smith****, Service Projects Chair, (785) 273-3138, jkjmsmith@aol.com

Wakarusa Group (Lawrence)

Lynate Pettengill**, Acting Chair, Chapter/Group Rep, (785) 331-0625, Lynate@sbcglobal.net

Carey Maynard-Moody, Sprawl/Transportation, (785) 842-6517, careymm@kansas.sierraclub.org

Carolyn Binns*, Treasurer, (785) 841-3238, carolynbinns@sunflower.com

Steve Lopes*, Secretary, (785) 842-7137, Slopes3688@aol.com

Gretchen Heasty*, Publicity Chair, (785) 550-1129, gheasty@ku.edu

Melissa Rogers*, Environmental Education Chair, Chapter Group Rep, (785) 764-0826, mmrogers816@gmail.com

George Brenner****, Water Quality Chair, (785) 393-3828, gbrenner@sunflower.com

Flint Hills Group (Manhattan Area)

Carol Barta*, Chair, Newsletter Editor, Program Chair, (785) 410-8608, snowsage54@hotmail.com

Scott Smith*, Treasurer, Chapter Group Rep, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net

Larry Erikson*, Conservation Chair, (913) 539-4424, lerick@ksu.edu

Virginia Hagin*, Outings Chair, (757) 508-5765, virginia.hagin@us.army.mil

Kanza Group (Kansas City)

Steven Baru*, Chair, Corporate Accountability, Sprawl Chair, Transportation Chair, (913) 814-0583, steve.baru@sierraclub.org

Craig Lubow*, Vice Chair, Conservation Co-Chair, Global Warming Chair, Calendars, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org

Richard Voss****, Secretary, Treasurer, (913) 888-8517, richard.voss@kansas.sierraclub.org

Frank Drinkwine*, Fundraising Chair, (913) 385-0385, frank.drinkwine@kansas.sierraclub.org

Bob Fritsch*, Outings Chair, (913) 906-9728, bobfritsch@hotmail.com

Elaine Giessel*, Conservation Co-Chair, Environmental Justice Chair, Education Chair, Hospitality Chair, (913) 888-8517, elaine.giessel@kansas.sierraclub.org

Jim Graham*, ExCom Member, (913) 706-4011, jgraham.graham01@gmail.com



Dec '10 / Jan '11

General Meetings

General public is welcome to attend

Flint Hills Group (Manhattan)

January 10. 6:30 pm.

Legislative Update

Chris Cardinal will be discussing legislative issues.

Contact - Carol Barta, (785) 410-8608, snowsage54@hotmail.com

Kanza Group (Kansas City)

December 14. 6:30 pm.

Flint Hills Burning

6:30 pm - Come early, and we will have goodies, along with good conversation followed by our program. Bring your own mug for drinks and for the Ugly Mug Contest.

7:00 pm - Craig Volland, Kansas Chapter Air Quality Chair, will present the latest on the controversial Flint Hills Burning strategy by ranchers. At stake is the habitat of the Prairie Chicken and the clean air of cities struggling to maintain allowable air quality levels. The Sierra Club is recommending that a burning management strategy be adopted that protects habitat while providing ranchers with reasonable expectations from revised burning practices.

Where - Overland Park Lutheran Church, 7810 W. 79th Street. 8 blocks west of Metcalf at Lowell. Park on north side. Directions at www.kansas.sierraclub.org/kanzadirections.htm

Contact - Craig Wolfe, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org

Kanza Group (Kansas City)

January 11. 6:30 pm.

Project Living Proof

6:30 pm - Come early, and we will have goodies, along with good conversation followed by our program. Bring your own mug for drinks and for the Ugly Mug Contest.

7:00 pm - The Metropolitan Energy Center will detail the progress of their exciting Project Living Proof, a demonstration home showing how to make energy improvements on existing structures. The goal of Project Living Proof is to provide a real world education on how to do an energy restoration of a modest home.

Where - Overland Park Lutheran Church, 7810 W. 79th Street. 8 blocks west of Metcalf at Lowell. Park on north side. Directions at www.kansas.sierraclub.org/kanzadirections.htm.

Contact - Craig Wolfe, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org

Southwind Group (Wichita)

December 10. 6:30 pm.

Southwind Holiday Dinner

Covered Dish Holiday Dinner at the home of Mary June Hefley, 6201 Perryton in Bel Aire. The Southwind Group will provide the entre' & members are encouraged to bring their favorite covered dishes.

Contact - Dave Kirkbride, (316) 522-4741, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

Southwind Group (Wichita)

January 14. 6:30 pm.

General Membership Meeting

6:30 - Food & Conversation begin at 6:30 and the program (to be
7:30 - Program (to be announced) at the Great Plains Nature Center.

Contact - Dave Kirkbride, (316) 522-4741, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

Topeka Group

January 25. 6:00 pm.

Paul & Bill canoe the Missouri River

6:00 pm - "Coffee, Food and Conversation"

7:00 pm - Bill Cutler and Paul Post will share stories and pictures from their Sierra Club sponsored canoe trip down the Missouri River in September. They were following part of the Lewis and Clark route. They will also give us some information about what you can expect from a Sierra Club Sponsored Outing. Join us as we kick off our 2011 programs and outings.

Where - Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church, 4775 SW 21st Street.

Contact - Gary Anderson, (785) 246-3229; gjanderson1963@ksbroadband.net

Topeka Group

February 22. 6:00 pm.

Legislative Update

6:00 pm - "Coffee, Food and Conversation"

7:00 pm - Chris Cardinal, Kansas Chapter Legislative Coordinator will bring us up to date on the Kansas Legislature concerning energy and conservation issues. Join us for an educational evening.

Where - Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church, 4775 SW 21st Street.

Contact - Gary Anderson, (785) 246-3229; gjanderson1963@ksbroadband.net

Wakarusa Group (Lawrence)

December 3. 7:00 pm.

Medicinal Plants of Kansas

Dr. Quinn Long will present. Everyone welcome, including non-Sierra Club members.

Where - ECM at KU, 1204 Oread.

Contact - Lynate Pettengill (785) 331-0625, Lynate@sbcglobal.net

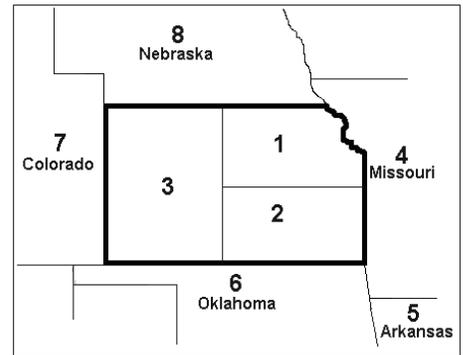


Dec '10 / Jan '11

Sierra Club Outings

General public is welcome to participate

Below is the combined list of all outings by the Kansas Chapter and Groups. The number in [brackets] indicates the area of the outing as shown on the map. Please contact the outing leader listed after the description by phone or e-mail before attending any of these activities. For trips requiring physical exertion, leaders need to know your ability and condition. Sierra Club policy also requires participants to sign a liability waiver or acknowledgement of risk prior to departing the trailhead.



[5] Dec 10–12. Backpacking on the Ozark

Highlands Trail, AR

We'll backpack a 16-20 mile section of the OHT. \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Dave Patton, (816) 461-6091, davedahiker@gmail

[2] Dec 13. 5:30 pm. Southwind at Caff  Moderne, 300 block of Mead in Old Town

Drinks and Conversation at the Caf  Moderne. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 522-4741, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

[4] Dec 18. Lake Jacomo Cove Clean Up

Bring gloves, we'll provide trash bags & hot cocoa, as we clean up trash near a popular wildlife cove. . Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com

[1] Jan 1. New Years day hike at the Prairie Center in Olathe

Kanza. Renee Andriani, (913) 488-4445, randri@kc.rr.com

[1] Jan 8. 10:00 am. Hike at Riverfront Bike Trail

Just because it's January, doesn't mean we can't go hiking! Bundle up and enjoy a hike with no ticks or poison ivy; just crisp, clean Kansas air and maybe a bald eagle or two. We'll hike for an hour or so, maybe less if it's bitterly cold. This is a kid-friendly event. We hope to see lots of families! North Lawrence, meet at parking lot just past 8th and Oak Streets. Wakarusa. Melissa Rogers. (785) 764-0826. mmrogers816@gmail.com

[4] Jan 8. Lake Jacomo day hike, Blue Springs, MO

Enjoy the crisp winter air as we hike and explore some off trail ravines and woodlands. Bring your lunch, and we'll provide the hot chocolate. \$5 donation requested. . Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com

[4] Jan 14–16. Paddy Creek Wilderness Backpack Trip

Enjoy two winter nights in the woods at Paddy Creek Wilderness. Friday evening we will hike to our first camp by a spring feed creek. Saturday evening we will

camp on a ridge overlooking a valley. Sunday we will break camp and have a short hike out. \$10.00 donation requested. . Kanza. Bryan Ohrman, (816) 215-3376, pbandj14@comcast.net

[1] Jan 15. 9:00 am. Hiking the Kaw River State Park

The newest state park in Kansas opened this fall. Let's shake our winter cabin fever and check out the many hiking trails in this new park. Meet at the Parks and Recreation division office at 300 SW Wanamaker, and of course, dress appropriately for the weather.. Topeka. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com

[4] Jan 29. Lake Jacomo Trail Maintenance, Lake Jacomo, MO.

We'll reclaim trail on a wooded section, which bridges Colbern Rd to the "Hoofed Animal Enclosure". Bring Lunch and work gloves. . Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com

[1] Feb 4. 7:00 pm. Take Charge Challenge!

Eileen Horn and/or Margaret Tran will talk with us about this unique contest that pits Lawrence/KU against Manhattan/K-State to see who can save the most energy in their community. Come learn about how you can participate and help us beat the Wildcats! Lawrence, ECM at KU, 1204 Oread. Wakarusa. Melissa Rogers. (785) 764-0826. mmrogers816@gmail.com



Dec '10 / Jan '11

Committee Meetings

Kanza Group (Kansas City)

Executive Committee
Dec 9, Jan 27 - 7:00 pm,
Steve Baru, (913) 814-0583,
steve.baru@sierraclub.org

Joint Action Committee
Dec 9, Jan 27 - 7:00 pm,
Conservation, legislative, and political
Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620,
craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org

Southwind Group (Wichita)

Executive and Fundraising Committee
Jan 2 - 6:00 pm
Equity Bank Building
Dave Kirkbride, (316) 655-8299,
david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

Conservation Committee
TBA - 6:30 pm
5825 Memphis St, Bel Aire Wichita.
Ellie Skokan, (316) 744-0033
ellie_skokan@yahoo.com

Wakarusa Group (Lawrence)

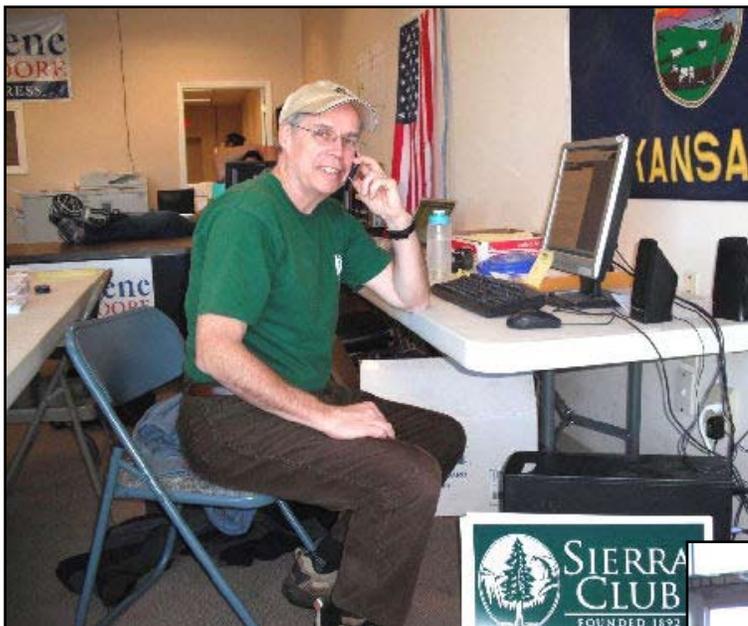
Executive Committee Planning
TBA - 7:00 pm
Location TBA. Lynate Pettengill
(785) 331-0625,
Lynate@sbcglobal.net

Conservation Committee
Contact Carey Maynard-Moody,
(785) 842-6517,
careymm@kansas.sierraclub.org.

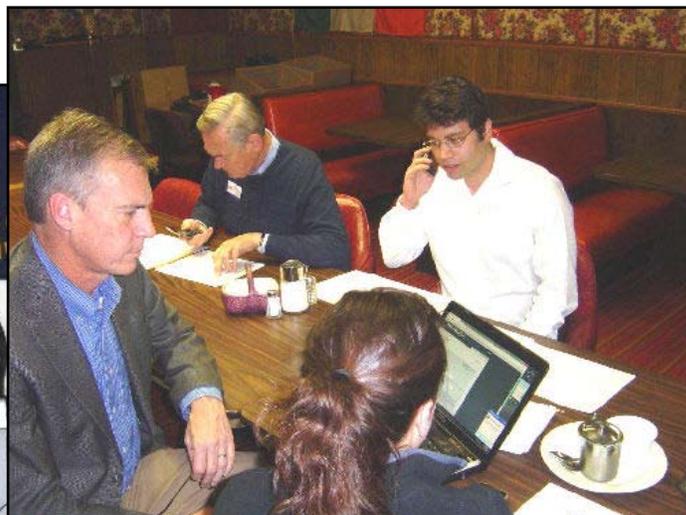
Topeka Group, ExCom meets quarterly, TBA. Gary Anderson, (785) 246-3229, gjanderson1963@ksbroadband.net
Energy Committee, TBA, Phil Morse (785) 273-3614, p.morse@sbcglobal.net

Kansas Chapter: (State), Executive Committee, Jan 22

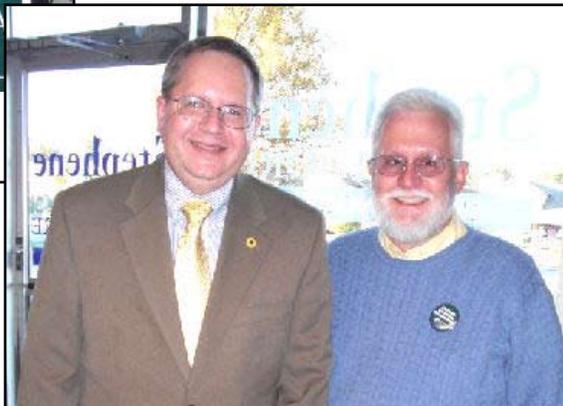
Frank Drinkwine (913) 385-0385, frank.drinkwine@kansas.sierraclub.org



Political Chair Bob Sommer at Stephene Moore's HQ in Overland Park



Lev Guter, with Congressman Dennis Moore and Gov. Mark Parkinson, phone banking at the Wyco Democratic HQ at Jalisco restaurant in KCK



Tom Thompson with Lt. Gov. Troy Findley at Stephene Moore's HQ

Scenes from the Political Season



Dec '10 / Jan '11



Kansas Chapter of Sierra Club
9844 Georgia
Kansas City, KS 66109-4326

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wichita, Kansas
Permit No. 848

Deadline for the next issue is January 15

8 8 8 - 7 - S I E R R A
www.kansas.sierraclub.org

Calendar of Events

Summary of all Kansas Chapter Events

Below is a listing of all General Meetings (GM), Outings (Out), and Committee Meetings (CM) for the Kansas Chapter and Groups. For specific information, see General Meetings page 9, Outings page 10, and Committee Meetings page 11. For the latest update on events, go to www.kansas.sierraclub.org/EventsSearch.htm.

- GMDec 3. 7:00 pm. Medicinal Plants of Kansas. Wakarusa. Lynate Pettengill (785) 331-0625, Lynate@sbcglobal.net
- CMDec 9. 7:00 pm. Kanza ExCom meeting. Kanza. Steve Baru, (913) 814-0583, steve.baru@sierraclub.org
- CMDec 9. 7:00 pm. Conservation and Joint Action Committee. Kanza. Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org
- OutDec 10–12. Backpacking on the Ozark Highlands Trail, AR. Kanza. Dave Patton, (816) 461-6091, davedahiker@gmail.com
- GMDec 10. 6:30 pm. Southwind Holiday Dinner. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 522-4741, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
- OutDec 13. 5:30 pm. Southwind at Caffé Moderne, 300 block of Mead in Old Town. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 522-4741, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
- GMDec 14. 6:30 pm. Flint Hills Burning. Kanza. Craig Wolfe, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org
- OutDec 18. Lake Jacomo Cove Clean Up. Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com
- OutJan 1. New Years day hike at the Prairie Center in Olathe. Kanza. Renee Andriani, (913) 488-4445, randri@kc.rr.com
- CMJan 2. 6:00 pm. Southwind ExCom Meeting. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 522-4741, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
- OutJan 8. Lake Jacomo day hike, Blue Springs, MO. Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com
- OutJan 8. 10:00 am. Hike at Riverfront Bike Trail. Wakarusa. Melissa Rogers. (785) 764-0826. mmrogers816@gmail.com
- GMJan 10. 6:30 pm. Legislative Update. Flint Hills. Carol Barta, (785) 410-8608, snowsage54@hotmail.com
- GMJan 11. 6:30 pm. Project Living Proof. Kanza. Craig Wolfe, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org
- GMJan 14. 6:30 pm. Southwind General Membership Meeting. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 522-4741, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
- OutJan 14–16. Paddy Creek Wilderness Backpack Trip. Kanza. Bryan Ohrman, (816) 215-3376, pbandj14@comcast.net
- OutJan 15. 9:00 am. Hiking the Kaw River State Park. Topeka. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com
- GMJan 25. 6:00 pm. Paul & Bill canoe the Missouri River. Topeka. Gary Anderson, (785) 246-3229; gjanderson1963@ksbroadband.net
- CMJan 27. 7:00 pm. Conservation and Joint Action Committee. Kanza. Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org
- CMJan 27. 7:00 pm. Kanza ExCom meeting. Kanza. Steve Baru, (913) 814-0583, steve.baru@sierraclub.org
- OutJan 29. Lake Jacomo Trail Maintenance, Lake Jacomo, MO. Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com
- OutFeb 4. 7:00 pm. Take Charge Challenge!. Wakarusa. Melissa Rogers. (785) 764-0826. mmrogers816@gmail.com
- GMFeb 22. 6:00 pm. Legislative Update. Topeka. Gary Anderson, (785) 246-3229; gjanderson1963@ksbroadband.net