

**Kansas Wildflower Society
Board Meeting**

April 6, 2002

Hesston, KS

Present at the meeting were Lorna Harder, Anita Smith, Valeria Wright, Ruth Steinek, Brad Cole, Jeff Hanson, Shirley Braunlich, Gary Weisenberger, Julie Irish, George Lippert, Dwight Platt, Sheldon Cohen, Sister Patricia Stanley, Carroll Morgenson, Jane Freeman, Craig Freeman, Betty Langston-Macon, and Cindy Ford

Lorna Harder called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report--Cindy Ford

Minutes were accepted.

President's Report--Lorna Harder

(1) Lorna reported that Larry Vickerman took a position in Colorado.
(2) Lorna had attended the Wichita Lawn & Garden Show and proposed having an educational booth there next year featuring native plants. (3) Kansas Wildflower of the Year is Fremont's Clematis. Carroll sent in a governor's request for proclamation from the legislature. (4) The Lady Bird Johnson journal last time was on invasives, suggesting native alternatives for common invasive landscaping species.

Treasurer's Report--Sister Patricia Stanley

Total income was \$4,836.18; total expenses were \$7,278.06 with a net income of -\$2,441.88. The NOW Account is \$5,133.19, the Moneymarket Account is \$11,411.74, with an additional account of \$5,557.72 for an overall total of \$19,660.77. Craig moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Carroll seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Committee Reports

Membership--Jane Freeman

Jane reported that membership numbers are holding better this year. She sent around a list checking e-mail addresses of the board members.

Outings--Jane Freeman

Several regional and Internet outings are listed in the newsletter.

Newsletter--Sheldon Cohen

Shel thanked members for articles sent in. He said that the spring issue has plenty of material and is due to be sent out to members soon.

Education--Lorna Harder

There has been no activity since Larry Vickerman left, since he was chair of this committee.

Book Sales--Carroll Morgenson

Sales have been slow with only four books sold in the last year, despite the books being listed on the website.

Wayside Award

Photo Contest

Bancroft Award

Steve Timme was not present to report on the committees.

Seed Exchange--Lorna Harder

A few seeds are stored.

Growing Native Wildflowers--Dwight Platt

Jane sends orders to Dwight now which works out efficiently. There have been five orders since the last board meeting. Dwight reported a fairly good stock. Fourteen manuals were sold through Dyck Arboretum.

Kansas Wildflower of Year--Carroll Morgenson

Carroll sent in a proclamation request to the governor regarding next year's Kansas Wildflower of the Year, *Penstemon grandiflora*. Lorna has an educational brochure to accompany Fremont's Clematis, this year's Kansas Wildflower of the Year. Arnold's Nursery near Leroy, KS, has Fremont's clematis. It was suggested that the Kansas Wildflower of the Year display be set up at Arnold's and at Botanica.

KACEE--Cindy Ford

Cindy reported that the annual Kansas Association for Conservation & Environmental Education (KACEE) Conference will be held in Atchison, KS, November 1-2. She suggested setting up the KWS booth at the conference. Lorna proposed that the patch program could be displayed and seeds could be sold or given away with marketing material.

Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee--Gary Weisenberger

Gary attended the February meeting in Topeka as a first-time representative for KWS. Sec. Hayden, Director of Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks, updated members at the meeting with the following: (1) \$100,000 cap on T&E tax credit species program (providing tax credits for protecting rare species) (2) more work with freshwater mussels started, (3) lobbies gaining popularity for Praire Dog Program to alter law to change status of "vermin" so that people can maintain colonies on their own land. There are an estimated 130,000 acres of towns (more than previously thought), but with declining number of farms, habitat is declining. Part of the concern for loss of species in Kansas is that there is less public land than any other state. (4) A mussels proposal aims to eliminate commercial harvest in Kansas. (5) The Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks budget is not affected as much since they are fee-based. (6) Wildlife & Parks will fund OWLS, Biological Survey, StreamLink with CARA money this year with \$700,000. (7) The Habitat Restoration Program emphasizes education, conservation, and restoration by sending proposals to W&P. (8) W&P is attempting to get the

naturalist program started again in Kansas. (9) Ed Miller, Endangered Species Specialist, talked about recovery plans for mussels and Topeka shiners. Two workshops are scheduled this year on burying beetles & mussels. (10) Ron Klatasky, Audubon, is working with KDOT, Audubon, KS Biological Survey to develop a roadside brochure and a poster with Fred Markham through the Prairie Passage Program. (11) A discussion ensued about W&P putting in food plots in lieu of native plots in wildlife areas.

Chapter Activities

No reports.

Old Business

Native Plant Initiative

No report

Prairie Passage--Dwight Platt

Dwight mentioned a new area to note on I-135, Exit 34, that will be restored with native plants. Gary mentioned IRVM and that the Sec of Transportation endorsed the program and may be more amenable to planting native plants. Lorna will list numbers to call KDOT to comment favorably on areas of native plants along highways.

Van Tour--Lorna Harder

The van tour is scheduled to go with 19 people. There are a few more seats left.

Plant Festivals--Shirley Braun

Shirley compiled an event list to network information and she is working on a letter to send out. Her idea is to try to have several events around the state at the same time to make people familiar with different wildflower habitats.

Plant Identification Course--Craig Freeman

Craig reported that there has not been much progress. He checked Colorado's program which charges for programs. He will have more information in fall.

New Business

New Website--Lorna Harder

The new website address is www.hesston.edu/kws.

Other Business--Lorna Harder

Lorna said that, with Larry Vickerman leaving KWS, there is no President-Elect to replace the President next fall. The Nominations Committee can work on contacts.

Lorna received a call from Fred Markham about the Kansas Sampler Festival in Independence with the theme of Wild about Kansas, sponsored by Nature-based

Alliance (Audubon, Rolling Hills, W&P, KAW Valley Heritage, Sternberg, etc.). Lorna would like to have KWS participate May 4 & 5 with the display there. Lorna encouraged members to attend.

A portable display is needed that can support photos and pockets and is mailable. Larry Vickerman did some preliminary research on the purchase of a model. Lorna asked whether the board wants to pursue this purchase. Julie Irish (Dyck Arboretum) may be interested in sharing cost on the display. Carroll moved to have the executive committee purchase the display, not to exceed \$500. Sister Patricia seconded and the motion passed.

Lorna is establishing some design criteria to have a standardized look with our new logo. Lorna showed a prototype of the new brochure. Some portions of the brochure are not completed. She asked the board about paper, format, and numbers with the following choices: 10,000 copies for \$2,700; 12,000 (about \$200 more) with glossy print through Mennonite Press. Recycled paper can be used and soy ink with a cost of 30% (\$123 and 165 additional). Posters would respectively cost: 2500 @ \$3908, 5000 @ \$4733, 10,000 @ \$6,379. Printing should begin this spring.

Lorna mentioned that the *North American Prairie Conference* will be held in Kirksville, MO, June 23 - 26.

Julie Irish voiced a request from Dyck Arboretum for monetary support of the fourth annual FloraKansas, which will be held the third weekend in May. This year will feature Sally Wasowsky, author of *Gardening with Prairie Plants* and Ask the Expert Booth. Julie emphasized her appreciation for the past support of KWS as sponsor. Sister Patricia moved to give \$1,000 to FloraKansas, Carroll seconded, the motion was amended to co-sponsor, and the motion passed with one abstention.

Carroll discussed the Topeka Beautification Project where a botanical garden is being constructed. They are looking for donations for the prairie theme garden. Dyck Arboretum may be interested in giving prairie plants for the garden. Shel moved to provide \$200 for help with construction of the prairie garden, Ruth seconded, and the motion passed.

Craig introduced the Brad Cole Prairie Inventory, a student project. Brad wants to map prairie remnants and can possibly provide local seed from these areas.

The fall meeting location was discussed. Valerie Wright mentioned that a new conference center at Kanza will be completed by next year, 2004. Shel moved to have the executive committee set a location and final dates, Sister Patricia seconded, and the motion passed.

Dwight moved to adjourn the meeting, Carroll seconded, and the motion passed.

Submitted by,

Cindy Ford, Secretary