



Kansas
Wildflower
Society

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26 NUMBER 2

Annual Fall Meeting

2004 Kansas Wildflower Society
Annual Fall Meeting
BEGINNING THE 2ND 25 YEARS
Follow the Yellow Brick Road to
Sedan, Kansas

By Gary Weisenberger



Nature Center, Butcher Falls
Red Buffalo Ranch

Last fall the 2003 Annual Meeting in Topeka was our 25th Anniversary. Returning to our roots at Washburn University, we recognized and celebrated our beginning and past. At the same time, renewal was under way. Guided by a new president, new ground was broken by encouraging members to dream. What more could the Kansas Wildflower

Society do to better serve the members and native plants of Kansas? One idea was to meet in different places around the state to view the wide range of native plants in their Kansas habitats. So "Follow the yellow brick road" to Sedan, Kansas, a ranching community in Chautauqua County and home of the Red Buf-

falo Ranch, owned by TV producer Bill Kurtis. Outings on the ranch are scheduled to view the end of the season native plants in all their autumn glory. The unique Butcher Falls Nature Center with trails, rangeland, and unspoiled roadsides will showcase

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Special points of interest:

- Annual Meeting promises to be a remarkable event
- KWS has a new name
- More events for the summer and fall
- Board Members have been busy
- Tour Reports

Kansas Wildflower Society Becomes Kansas Native Plant Society:

Looking to the Future

Dr. Stephen L. Timme;
T.M. Sperry Herbarium,
Pittsburg State University

At the July 10th, 2004, special Board of Directors Meeting of the Kansas Wildflower Society, held at

Butler County Community College in El Dorado, a number of significant items carried over from the Annual Board Meeting this past April were discussed and acted on. Most of the issues considered will lead to more opportunities for the Society's membership and more public aware-

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The Kansas Wildflower Society is dedicated to developing an awareness of the beauty of Kansas Wildflowers, the value of their use in landscaping public areas and their place in our ecology.

Wildflower Wanderings

by Valerie Wright, President, KWS

The Kansas Wildflower Society Board of Directors generated so many great ideas at our regular April Board meeting that an extra meeting was necessary in July to begin implementation of at least some of them. All committees now have Chairs to lead the work they will be doing in the next year. We are also working on a new mission statement and update of the bylaws. In this big issue of the newsletter, there are articles about our efforts to move KWS into the 21st Century.

One item that had been pending on our docket since 2000 was the change in name of our Society. Please read Dr. Stephen Timme's article to find out the details of why

the name has been changed to the Kansas Native Plant Society and when the change will take place. We are excited about the possibilities this name change will give us to bring more people into our membership and to work on issues of importance to our changing world, like the insidious dangers of invasive plants, the destruction of habitats of some of our most fragile plant species, and the importance of gardening with native plants for their conservation, for water management and for the beauty of their presence in our lives.

One of the great new ideas of the Board was to hold our annual meetings in different parts of Kansas. The native plants and their habitats change across the state and offer new botanizing experiences for us all. These meetings will also offer an op-

portunity for members across the state to participate in Society activities. Their ideas and concerns will be heard. After all, we are a statewide organization. So join us at the Fall Annual Meeting in Sedan, Kansas, a picturesque little town in an ecologically unique part of our state. Please fill out the tear-off form inserted in this issue so we can plan for meals and outings. More information about the program will be sent to all members in a special mailing.

I hope that you will enjoy this newsletter. Write to us or send e-mails to our new address (kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com) with your comments. We would love to have your valued participation!

Annual Fall Meeting Continued

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this area. This will be a rare opportunity to visit a little known area of Kansas, which is squeezed between two ecosystems, the southern Flint Hills and the northern extension of the Cross-Timbers. Native plant outings are planned for Friday and Saturday afternoons, along with an optional caravan trip to The Nature

Conservancy's Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Oklahoma on Sunday.

The fall meeting will also be an exciting opportunity for all members to help recommit and restructure the organization as the ultimate source of information and action on native plants in Kansas. The membership meeting will be Saturday morning, October 2, at the Art of the Prairie

Gallery on Main Street, Sedan. A special noon meal by reservation will follow at Tom McCann's Restaurant, just down the block. So, set aside October 1 and 2, or more days if you can. This will be an historic meeting. See more details in the insert of this newsletter.

Reports of KWS Spring/Summer Wildflower Outings

Sand Prairie Reservation, North Newton, Harvey County

On May 29, 2004 about 12 people participated in a tour led by Dwight Platt and Sandra Tholen. The area is composed of 80 acres north of Newton, Kansas and is managed by Bethel College. The soil is sandy, blown out of the Arkansas River

Valley.

There were two predominant species: Butterfly Milkweed, (*Asclepias tuberosa*) and Puccoon, (*Lithospermum carolinense*.) The bright yellow of both species gave the area a warm glow. There was a third predominant species, but we tried to avoid the ubiquitous poison ivy. A species rarely seen, Western Water Clover (*Marsilea vestita*) was present in the watery areas.

Since the butterfly milkweed was in bloom, there were many butterflies present especially the regal fritillaries.

Another stop was made in the near-by park where we saw great patches of Prickly Pear (*Opuntia humifusa*) and Goat's Rue (*Tephrosia virginiana*.)

Sister Patricia Stanley

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Name Change-Continued

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ness of the Society's activities. The Society is currently in a revitalization stage, thanks in good part to the current president, Valerie Wright. She has established a number of committees that will review various aspects of the Society's current projects to determine how best they serve the membership.

One extremely important decision reached at the July Board Meeting was to officially change the Society's name. As of January 1, 2005, the Kansas Wildflower Society will be the **Kansas Native Plant Society**. The discussion to change the name was lively, but in the end, nearly all board members present voted for the change. The name change was not a new issue, but one that has been on the agenda for some time. Four years ago in the summer of 2000, the board gave the membership an opportunity to express their desire concerning a name change. Less than half the membership submitted their decisions. The result was a majority favoring the change. However, because the vote was close, the board decided at the time to table the final decision for later discussion and action. Readers may want to go back to the Summer 2000 issue (Vol. 22, No. 2) of *Kansas Wildflower Society Newsletter* (the issue that included the ballot for the vote) to look at the articles presenting the pro and con views for name change.

This new name signals the recognition of the already-expanded scope of the Society's interests and activities that encompass not only forbs, better known as wildflowers, but a wider variety of the state's native flora, including, but not necessarily restricted to, additional flowering plants such as trees, grasses, sedges, rushes, and the non-flowering plants, the bryophytes (mosses, liverworts, and hornworts),

ferns and their allies (horsetails, club mosses, and quillworts), and gymnosperms.

Although the name is changing, the primary goal of the Society is, and will continue to be, to provide the membership opportunities to see and learn about the diversity of plants in Kansas. Most forays, workshops, newsletter articles, organizational materials and activities will still focus on what we traditionally refer to as "wildflowers." However, the reality is that for some time, the Kansas Wildflower Society has been identifying, studying, valuing, and working to conserve a broader range of native plants beyond the limits the present name suggests. The name "Kansas Native Plant Society" will more accurately reflect the nature of our organization today.

Many of us have great affection for and pride in the name "Kansas Wildflower Society" that has identified the group since its formation in 1978. The previous year a visiting artist at the Mulvane Arts Center, Chapman Kelly, suggested that "Kansans use their native wildflowers to enhance the beauty of the state's landscape." On September 23, 1978, a public meeting was held to organize a Kansas wildflower society. The Society's name apparently was never discussed as an item, but may be attributed to Dr. Ronald L. McGregor at the University of Kansas Herbarium. In the *KWS Newsletter* of January 1979 (Vol. 1, No. 2), Joan Walrafen provides a history of the formation of KWS and indicates that Dr. McGregor first suggested the formation of a Kansas wildflower society. But no other indication is made concerning a discussion of the organization's official name, and therefore it appears the name was simply accepted from Dr. McGregor's suggestion.

Over the years, members have responded in probably more ways than artist Kelly could have imagined to

enhance the landscape of both our public spaces, and our private yards and gardens with the unique and beautiful plants found in our state, not only our showy wildflowers, but also our signature grasses, our bushes, and ferns. At the same time, we have expanded our concern for the landscape by protecting and preserving the habitats where these native plants grow.

Kansas has recognized, as many other states have, that this work is not just about wildflowers but all native plants. Consequently, the Kansas Native Plant Society (KNPS) will join the ranks of many other states with the name "Native Plant Society." According to a list from the Internet, 35 states have "Native Plant Society" as part of their name, while only Alabama and Kansas used "Wildflower Society" in their names. Four other states use "Wildflower Society" but are associated with the New England Wildflower Society. The remaining states use such names as "Botanical Club," "Botanical Society," "Wildflower Preservation Society," and a few others.

Making the change was not something the Society did on a whim. It has been discussed over the years, and at the 10 July meeting, board members had an opportunity to once more look at both negative and positive aspects of a name change. The board is aware of concerns, but nearly all members felt that the name change would be a positive step for the Society and for the fate of native plants in our state. The Society is moving into a more public position because of increased electronic exposure. Our new name emphasizes to the public, as the former name could not, the importance of "native plants;" the need for their conservation and the conservation of their habitats; and the threat in the 21st Century of losing our native plants to aggressive introductions and habitat loss. Kansas Native Plant Society under the new banner looks optimistically toward the future.

Minutes from Special Meeting – Board of Directors

Members present were: Valerie Wright, Roger Boyd, Jeff Hansen, George Lippert, Jane Freeman, Craig Freeman, Shirley Braunlich, Lorrie Parrish, Steve Timme, Nancy Goulden, Marion McGlohon, Carroll Morganson, Dwight Platt, Michael Heffron, Sheldon Cohen, and Cindy Ford.

Valerie called the meeting to order. She presented an agenda and reviewed the activities at the last meeting. The goal for this meeting is to choose the chairs and members of the committees that were described last meeting.

Secretary Minutes ~ Cindy Ford

Craig moved to accept the minutes, Steve seconded, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report ~ none

Committee Reports

Awards Committee ~ Steve Timme

Steve reported on the Wayside Award. Two groups (City of Lawrence and Sedgwick County Zoo) are interested but he has received no applications yet. He designed a new nomination form and shared the form with the board. A plaque is given to the winners. Committee members have been Mary Connell and Carroll Morgenson. He also reported on the Photo Contest. There were no entries last year. Steve asked for suggestions for entries and shared the nomination form. A certificate is given to the winners.

Thirdly, he reported on the Mary Bancroft Award. There has been no interest in this award despite Steve's advertisement to universities and colleges. There is a \$500 award.

Michael proposed establishing a contact person at each educational institution. Steve had an update on the Important Contribution to Botany in Kansas Award. One award was previously awarded to Woody Holland (2001). This year the award is going to Harold Kline who has conducted the Barton County Wildflower Outing for years.

Valerie suggested that a committee be established to handle all awards. This could maybe be included in the Publicity Committee. It may be necessary to narrow the awards to two awards. Valerie asked for a temporary committee to describe details of these awards. Steve will serve as chair; Cindy and Roger will assist. By fall, the committee will report on which awards to retain, give recommendations on changing the name of the Wayside Award, and follow through with awarding the Contributions award.

Sales Committee~ Carroll Morgenson

There have been no sales for quite a long time. Clinton Owensby's book is back in print; Valerie will check on whether a discount is available and where to order. Valerie asked for a temporary committee to decide whether to sell anything, whether we will make money, marketing strategies, separating "sales" into different appropriate committees, and how we should proceed if we want to continue selling books and/or items. Michael is chair of the temporary committee to determine feasibility of sales; Cindy and Jeff will assist. A report will be given in the fall.

Publicity Committee ~ Anita Smith

Valerie read a letter from Anita. Anita sent all con-

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Welcome New Members as of July 2004

Earl Allen, Manhattan
Tara Allison, Wichita
Michele Boone, Lawrence
Gregory Carter, Thayer
Beth Clarke, Yates Center
Shelby Conyers, Wichita
Vickie Cullaine, Wichita
Todd & Julie Gabbard, Gainesville
Katherine Garrett, Douglass
Helen Gitelson, Forest Hills
Celia Gross, Augusta
Mary Pat Haddican, St John

Mike Haddock, Manhattan
Tina Heinrich, Augusta
Jon Holmes, Wichita
Stana Jefferson, Augusta
Suneeti Jog, Lawrence
Jesse Milne, Wichita
Karen Nelson, Pittsburg
Jay & Marcia Newton, El Dorado
Kara Peavey, Wichita
Jolene Ratzlaff, Hesston
Matthew Brock Rhodes, Douglass
Dorcas Romary, Humboldt

Jan & Dennis Rorabaugh, Lawrence
Spencer Rosebraugh, Augusta
James Standlee, El Dorado
Heather Stowe, Wichita
Shawn Strecker, Wichita
Anne Tarver, Wichita
Janet Throne, Manhattan
Elisabeth & Richard Vanderlip, Manhattan
Annette Voth, Newton
Leann Williams, Baldwin City

Welcome!

KANSAS WILDFLOWER SOCIETY

FALL ANNUAL MEETING

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

to
SEDAN, KANSAS
October 1 & 2, 2004

The KWS Fall Annual Meeting will be held at Sedan, in South Central Kansas. This is your opportunity to visit the Red Buffalo Ranch, owned by TV producer, Bill Kurtis. The Butcher Falls Nature Center, where the wildflower hikes will begin, is on the ranch property. Our own Gary Weisenberger will lead the walking tours on nature trails and we will car pool along the gravel roads of the ranch. In addition a side trip to The Nature Conservancy's Tallgrass Prairie Preserve (only 20 miles further south in Oklahoma) is offered to those who can stay for Sunday morning, October 3.

Sedan is easy to find: Hwy 99 becomes Main Street. Please check the Internet for information about hotels in Sedan and Independence. A large red sign on Hwy 99 north of Sedan marks the turn to the Red Buffalo Ranch. Turn west on the gravel road about 3 miles. The Butcher Falls Nature Center will be on your right.

**Program: Friday, October 1, 3:30 p.m.: Afternoon walk at the Red Buffalo Ranch.
Chuck Wagon Supper at 6:00 p.m.: Butcher Falls Nature Center.**

**Saturday, October 2, Art of the Prairie Gallery, Main & Douglas, Sedan.
8:00 a.m.: Registration and displays.
9:00 a.m. to noon: KWS Annual Meeting (details in the next mailing).
12:30 p.m.: Private luncheon at Tom McCann's Restaurant, Main Street.
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Butcher Falls Trail Hike & car pools. (Supper on your own.)**

Please make your reservations by filling out the form below. The deadline is September 1, 2004.

----- *Please cut here* -----

I will attend the KWS Annual Fall Meeting at Sedan, KS, October 1 & 2, 2004

Name: _____ Number in my party: _____

October 1: I will attend the Chuck Wagon Supper (Butcher Falls Nature Center) @ \$10/person.

Please circle one: Beef brisket or Chicken salad sandwich with side dishes & dessert.

October 2: I will attend the luncheon at Tom McCann's Restaurant @ \$11.75/person.

Please send payment to reserve your meals. My check is enclosed for a Total of \$ _____

October 3: I will caravan with KWS to The Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Oklahoma Yes No

Please mail this form with your check to: The Kansas Wildflower Society

R.L. McGregor Herbarium

University of Kansas

Lawrence, KS 66047-3729

2004-2005 Kansas Area Wildflower & Native Plant Events

Information provided by Kansas Wildflower Society, R.L.McGregor Herbarium, 2045 Constant Ave., Lawrence, KS 66047-3729.

Online: [www.cs.Hesston.edu/kws] Email: <kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com> Phone: (785) 864-3453.

Please share this information with other interested folks and contact us with information on other events to note. Thank you!

For outdoor events we recommend bringing sturdy footwear, long pants, insect repellent, sunscreen, a hat and water!

2004 Events:

August 7: Wildflower Hike at Prairie State Park, near Lamar Missouri. Take a leisurely walk among the colorful wildflowers of the tallgrass prairie, 10am. Identification, uses and folklore will be shared on each plant. For more information, call (417) 843-6711 or e-mail <prairie.state.park@dnr.mo.gov>.

August 8-12: The 19th North American Prairie Conference will be held at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, WI. For more information, contact the conference coordinator at the University at 620 Babcock Drive, Madison, WI 53706 or [http://www.napc2004.org].

September 4: Wildflower Hike at Prairie State Park, near Lamar Missouri. Take a leisurely walk among the colorful wildflowers of the tallgrass prairie, 10am. Identification, uses and folklore will be shared on each plant. For more information, call (417) 843-6711 or e-mail <prairie.state.park@dnr.mo.gov>.



September 9-12: FloraKansas Great Plains Plant Bazaar, annually the 2nd weekend in September. This is the largest native plant sale in Kansas featuring hard-to-find native perennials, shrubs and trees plus fun 'gardenabilia'. Saturday offerings: classes, demonstrations, and tours from professionals. Hours: Saturday 8am-4pm, Sunday noon-4pm, and Monday 8am-8pm. Contact the Arboretum about becoming a member and special members only sale dates. Admission charge is by donation. Location: Dyck Arboretum of the Plains, 177 West Hickory Street, Hesston, KS. Hesston is 30 miles N of Wichita. [www.dyckarboretum.org] <arboretum@Hesston.edu> (620) 327-8127



September 11: Wildflower walk at Chisholm Creek Park, Wichita, KS. This event is co-sponsored by Great Plains Nature Center and the Kansas Wildflower Society. Meet 9am at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot, 29th and Woodlawn. Ruth Steinke and Sandra Tholen are co-leaders. Contact Sandra for any questions: <stholen@cox.net> (316) 634-0049.



September 19: Baker Wetlands Outing, Lawrence, KS, 2pm. Join Kansas Wildflower Society Board Member Roger Boyd and his wife Jan at the boardwalk of the Baker Wetlands for a tour of the wide range of fall plants that inhabit the wetlands. Numerous grasses and sedges will be identified. The Wetlands are located on the south side of Lawrence. Reach the boardwalk by traveling ½ mile east of the intersection of Louisiana St and 31st St. The Wetland entrance is on a gravel road 100 yards south of 31st Street. Walk through the gate and turn right to the Information Kiosk and boardwalk. For further information contact Dr. Roger Boyd at <rboyd@bakeru.edu> (785) 591-3172


September 24-25: Chaplin Nature Center BioBlitz near Arkansas City, KS. A BioBlitz is a rapid inventory of biological diversity conducted by volunteers from around the state. It brings together scientists in a race against time to see how many species they can count in a specified area in a 24-hour period. It's designed to increase the public's awareness of the variety of life that exists in their local area. Everyone is welcome to the BioBlitz. Scientists with expertise in their discipline are encouraged to register as team leaders. The team leader may put together their own team or he/she may be assigned to work with other biologists or volunteers. The general public is invited to observe the inventory process and biologists at work. Survey teams might include, but are not limited to: plants (vascular and non-vascular), vertebrates (reptiles, amphibians, fishes, mammals, birds) and invertebrates (spiders and their kin, butterflies and moths, dragonflies and damselflies, and beetles). The BioBlitz provides an opportunity for professional biologists, students, and naturalists to work together in the field. Biologists from many disciplines have the opportunity to get together, share their passion with each


other and the public as they work toward the common goal. The BioBlitz is an excellent tool for exciting children and adults about science. The BioBlitz also generates a species list, which contributes to the body of knowledge about the diversity and distribution of organisms in Kansas. About Chaplin Nature Center: along the sandy beaches of the Arkansas River, the Center combines 230 acres of magnificent woodlands, prairies and streams. The Chaplin Nature Center exists to help people understand themselves in relationship to the natural environment upon which we all depend for life. We'll start at 3pm on Friday, September 24 and end 24 hours later at 3pm on Saturday, September 25. There will be free camping accommodations at the Center on Friday night. Meals will be provided for Friday dinner and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Snacks will be available for purchase on Saturday. Other activities for the public to enjoy include nature hikes down to the Arkansas River, Monarch butterfly tagging and children's crafts. Food and crafts will also be available for sale. To participate in the 2004 BioBlitz at the Chaplin Nature Center fill out the registration form and return to: Chaplin Nature Center, 27814 27th Drive, Arkansas City, KS 67005. More information may be found at [www.wichitaudubon.org]. The Wichita Audubon Society is sponsoring this event. If you would like to become a sponsor of the BioBlitz or have questions contact Shawn Silliman (620) 442-4133.

September 25: Konza Prairie Biennial Visitors' Day 8am to 4pm with guided walks, presentations, and van tours to see the bison herd, near Manhattan, KS. [www.ksu.edu/konza/keep] (785) 587-0441


September 25: Woody Holland's Wildflower Tour of Neosho County, KS. Meet leader Carl Paulie in front of the courthouse on Main St. in Erie, KS at 1pm. The tour will leave promptly at 1:30pm. Contact Carl at (620)449-2028.

September 25: Prairie Jubilee at Prairie State Park, near Lamar Missouri. Visit Missouri's largest remaining tallgrass prairie, at nearly 4,000 acres. Learn about life on the prairie during a day filled with activities and entertainment, 10am to 4pm. Guided wagon rides to view the bison herd will be available, and wildflower gardening plants will be for sale, with advice offered on care. Storytelling and traditional music will fill the air. A bison burger lunch will be available for a small fee. This fun event for young and old is sponsored by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. For more information, call (417) 843-6711 or e-mail <prairie.state.park.@dnr.mo.gov>.

 **October 1-2:** The Kansas Wildflower Society's 26th Annual Meeting will be held in Sedan, KS (southeast Kansas). Bill Curtis will be our featured speaker, Kansas native and well-known reporter for a national broadcasting company and his own cable channel, A&E. We'll enjoy a tallgrass prairie walk at the Red Buffalo Ranch, owned by Bill Curtis. See also: October 2 below, Butcher Falls Nature Center trail through wooded river bottom and cross-timbers savanna. Sunday, October 3 optional: caravan trip to the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Oklahoma, 20 miles south of Sedan. <kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com> (785) 864-3453

 **Oct. 2:** Visit Butcher Falls Nature Center, Red Buffalo Ranch, Sedan, KS. Enjoy a nature trail through wooded river bottom and cross-timbers savanna. Gary Weisenberger, Kansas Wildflower Society Board Member, will lead this native plant walk from 2-4pm. Directions: go 1.5 miles northwest of Sedan on K-99, turn west onto gravel road at sign, go 3 miles to entrance on right. Gary Weisenberger <gjweisen@yahoo.com> (620) 637-2343

October 1-3: The Land Institute's 26th annual Prairie Festival in Salina, KS. The festival features speakers, artists, music, drama, dancing, guided prairie walks, bird watching, children's activities, and food. [www.landinstitute.org] (785) 823-5376.

 **Oct. 9:** Explore South Owl Lake Prairie, Yates Center, KS. Meander through the tallgrass prairie. Gary Weisenberger, Kansas Wildflower Society Board Member, will lead this native plant walk from 9-11am. Directions: go west 1 mile on US 54 from intersection of US 54 and US 75, turn south onto gravel road (Longhorn) go ¾ mile to parking area. Gary Weisenberger <gjweisen@yahoo.com> (620) 637-2343

October 16: Missouri Prairie Foundation Fall Prairie Day and Family Campout at Stilwell Prairie (near Richards, MO - northeast of Ft. Scott, KS). Stilwell is a dramatically rolling upland prairie over silt loam soils derived from shale and sandstone. A total of 357 plant species have been recorded from Stilwell Prairie. This is a remote site, on a native, undisturbed prairie; there is no electricity or water. There are 3 fishing ponds - bring your own gear, bait, and licenses. Please no pets and keep vehicles off the prairies! Missouri Prairie Foundation [www.moprairie.org] <abenson@bensonlaw.com> (888) 843-6739

Minutes-continued

(Continued from page 4)

ervation district contacts to Michael, sent information to radio and TV stations, and reported that a class is currently using the Prairie Patch program in Fredonia Arts Council. She thanked Gary, Michael, Lorrie, Steve, and George for helping with the wild-flower outing. Craig is working on a poster and will contact Anita for distribution to the public. Valerie explained that if there is an event, send the information to the Publicity Committee so that they can disseminate the information.

Native Plant Resources Committee

Cindy agreed to chair the committee, with Michael, Craig, Gary, Lorrie, and Brad serving on the committee. Selection and priorities of projects will be clarified and the committee will report in the fall.

Outings and Events Committee

Shirley will serve as chair; committee members will be Jeff, Sandra, Michael, and Gary. Outing leaders need to submit a sign-up sheet to Jane for the Membership Committee. The committee should design a sign-in sheet, make a matrix, assign a representative to attend forays that are sponsored to publicize KWS, and find a way to highlight KWS events. Valerie encouraged the outing leaders to send an article to the Newsletter Committee (Nancy). A report will be given in the fall.

Website Committee

Lorna was not present to update the board on web development. The board expressed the importance of getting a domain name and hiring a web master as soon as possible. Valerie emphasized that it is crucial to get the website running right away. Jeff will serve as chair, Sister Patricia, Shirley, and Lorna were nominated to serve on the committee. The committee will find a person to serve as webmaster and discuss how to make the website flexible for the society to use. Craig's email will be removed from the website and replaced with Shirley's email at Yahoo called kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com.

Newsletter Committee

Sister Patricia has published the first new newsletter. Valerie invited comments or suggestions on the new format. Steve moved to have the banner across the top of the newsletter (name and logo), Shel seconded, and the

motion carried. The events list needs to be more inclusive and either placed on an insert or on added pages. The list needs to start a week after the newsletter comes out. The newsletter editor can make arrangements with the printer. Nancy and Sister Patricia will serve as co-chairs with Shel, Anita, and Sandra assisting. Nancy asked the board into which areas the newsletter should expand. Nancy suggested adding a question/answer column.

Membership Committee

Jane stated that 30 new members have joined this year. The membership sheets are starting to be color-coded. Jane wanted to let event leaders know to color-code. All board members were encouraged to send at least one name to Jane. She will send a membership packet. Craig will serve as chair; Jane and Anita will serve on the committee. They will consider the question of how we want to handle regional contacts and memberships.

Education Committee

Valerie designed the form for the patch program and it has been sent to Anita. Michael and Lorna will serve as co-chairs and report to the membership in the fall.

Old Business

Poster

Craig showed what the poster will look like. The images to be printed on a poster that is 3 ft. x 4 ft. will be on the website. The posters will be laminated and used for special events. The board inquired about mass production of these posters. The feasibility will depend on cost. Craig will report back for the fall meeting.

Fall Meeting

Craig, Jane, and Valerie will plan the agenda for the fall meeting.

Service Projects

The Hollenberg Pony Express Station planting assistance was taken care of by Julie. Shirley reviewed the concept of the Kansas Land Trust. She asked if KWS would partner with Kansas Land Trust to purchase a conservation easement of 200 acres north of Manhattan. Valerie visited the site and validated the quality of the prairie and suggested that we may want to do something. Discussion ensued with questions pro-

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Minutes—continued

(Continued from page 9)

posed for Shirley to ask Kansas Land Trust. She will submit a report in the fall.

Wildflower of the Year

Carroll will meet with the partners of this project and report back in the fall meeting.

New Business

Valerie initiated a discussion on the KWS bylaws, mission statement, and name change. A temporary committee was set up to work on the mission statement. Shel and Marion will serve on this committee.

Shel and Craig have worked on the bylaws. The word, "corporation," is used because of the state definition. Shel pointed out the need for several changes in the wording of the bylaws (e.g. number of members on board, maximum service on board, and student memberships). The board gave suggestions and the committee will meet to clarify the bylaws, which they will bring to the board in the fall.

A 2/3 vote of board members can change the name of the organization. Roger moved to change Kansas Wildflower Society to Kansas Native Plant Society and Shirley seconded. Discussion supporting both names ensued. Roger amended the motion by stating that the name change would go into effect January 1, 2005; Shirley agreed. There were twelve votes for, one vote against, and one abstention; the motion carried. Steve will write a brief article discussing the name change and Craig will write an article discussing the problematic term of "native" plants.

Jane is planning on retiring, but will remain in the position until a replacement can be found. She will write a job

description and outline workloads that she has throughout the year.

Membership dues were discussed. Added expenses include the website domain, website master, publicity, color in newsletter, and office expenses. Shel proposed making a budget to decide how much we need to raise the dues. Shel moved to assemble a budget committee made up of the President, Treasurer, and anyone else the President designated to design a workable budget, and Carroll seconded. Steve mentioned that the Lifetime Membership seems high at \$500. The motion carried. Valerie said that she would try to have a draft budget by the fall meeting.

Valerie wants to encourage board members from far away to become more involved. Valerie proposed a process where board members could submit expenses to the board to get reimbursed. Criteria for selection would need to be set up. Valerie will propose a line item for travel funds in the budget.

The fall general meeting is October 1 - 2 with the board meeting Friday evening at the Red Buffalo Ranch in Sedan.

Craig and Valerie thanked Michael for being host. Valerie read a thank you letter from Julie concerning the money donated to the FloraKansas program and the board members who helped. Valerie thanked the board members who have helped with the new committees.

Steve moved to adjourn, Carroll seconded, and the motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by
Cindy Ford, Secretary

Reports of KWS Spring/Summer Wildflower Outings—continued

Wilson County Wildflower Tour

Approximately 160 native plant enthusiasts enjoyed a cool and cloudy day June 5 at the ninth annual Wilson County Wildflower Tour. Fifty-five plants were flagged in a native upland meadow. Tour leaders were available to identify plants, relate historical and ecological interpretations, and answer any questions. Favorites included the brilliant pink of the tiny Deftford Pink (*Dianthus armeria*); Pale Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea*

pallida); and the Wildflower of the Year, Prairie Wild Rose (*Rosa arkansana*).

Salina folk singer, Ann Zimmerman, shared her music during the basket lunch, held on the banks of a restful farm pond. Gary Weisenberger led interested visitors in making rope from the Hemp dogbane plant. Stephen Timme conducted a popular, pre-tour plant identification class the evening prior to the tour.

Anita Smith

Colbentz Prairie (Douglas County) Outing

Kansas Wildflower Society and Grassland Heritage Foundation celebrated the Summer Solstice by co-sponsoring an outing to Colbentz Prairie on Sunday June 20th.

This prairie is of the highest quality and has great diversity with over 270 known plant species. Jeff Hansen and Shirley Braunlich led the grand adventure. Located in west-central Douglas County at the intersection of E 1 Road and North 1150th Road, it is part of the Clinton Wildlife area and is owned by the Army

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Corps of Engineers but managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. This may be the furthest south the glaciers advanced in Kansas, and large pink and red Sioux Quartzite boulders, glacial erratics, can be found in several areas. In the Wakarusa valley is Coblentz Marsh, reclaimed from former agricultural lands.

In spite of the threat of thunderstorms, June 20th turned out to be a perfect day. We were met with temperatures in the 70s, a few clouds, and a nice breeze. People came from as far away as Illinois and Colorado to partake in this walk. We began with a list of 260 plant species and 26 enthusiastic adults and children. Among us were an ecologist, entomologist, ornithologist, 9 KWS members, several GHF members and friends, and even a few neighbors who simply walked down the road to attend! It was flattering to learn we attracted a family with members in Illinois and Colorado who found our event announced on the Internet. The location was a convenient halfway point for them to meet and visit a prairie! Another attendee brought along her friend visiting from California. Others came from Wichita, Manhattan, and Holton, KS.

Plants that we saw in bloom included Tuberous Indian-plantain (*Arnoglossum plantagineum*), Climbing Prairie Rose (*Rosa setigera*), Culver's-root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*), Topeka Purple-coneflower (*Echinacea atrorubens*), Spotted St. John's-wort (*Hypericum punctatum*), Tall Cinquefoil (*Potentilla arguta*), and Venus'-looking-glasses (*Triodanis* sp.).

A few of the showier species were Slender-fruit Venus'-looking-glass (*Triodanis leptocarpa*) and Starry Catchfly (*Silene stellata*). It was interesting to find several shade-loving native plant species in the marginally woody-succession areas between the big prairie sections, i.e., Tall Anemone (*Anemone virginiana*) and Large-flower Tick-clover (*Desmodium glutinosum*). Other plants of interest included the Adder's Tongue Fern—one of the few fern species found on prairies, Cluster fescue (*Festuca paradoxa*)—a fescue rarely found in Kansas, Noseburn (*Tragia betonicifolia*)—a plant known for its dermatological affect.

Valerie Wright, President of Kansas Wildflower Society, shared her highlights of the outing: "I was pleasantly surprised to see that it was so large and in wonderful condition, good enough to support Henslow's Sparrow and Golden Byssus butterflies. I loved seeing the Pale-spike Lobelia (*Lobelia spicata*) again and Tall Anemone (*Anemone virginiana*). A first for me was Blunt-leaf Milkweed (*Asclepias amplexicaulis*), too bad it was not blooming. Also I got to observe the mating ritual of the Golden Byssus butterflies in the large clumps of Eastern Gamma Grass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*), their host.

It was great to revel in the prairie together and make new finds. Several of us discovered a large, beautiful pink quartzite stone that was nearly translucent. It was very jewel-like and slightly bigger than a football. We will hold another outing here again, but if you want to visit this prairie on your own, pay attention to deer and turkey hunting seasons. The area is open to public hunting, managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Shirley Braunlich and Jeff Hansen

Kansas Land Trust Flint Hills Tallgrass Prairie Project (Riley County)

Background and Outing

On May 22 Kansas Land Trust invited Kansas Wildflower Society to join them for an outing on the site of Flint Hills Tallgrass Prairie Project in Riley County, KS. This project is designed to protect 205 acres of Flint Hills Tallgrass Prairie located 10 miles northwest of Manhattan, KS. Kansas Land Trust is seeking donations to purchase a conservation easement on this privately owned natural area through the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program. Future development or other destruction of this prairie would be prohibited in perpetuity. Kansas Land Trust wrote: The parcel we hope to protect is ripe for ranchettes. Rural subdivisions are already appearing in

the vicinity of our project. Such fragmentation of the prairie makes it more difficult for landowners to properly manage surrounding open land through burning and grazing. When agriculture faces hard times—as it does now—the purchase of conservation easements helps landowners keep their farms and ranches whole and productive while protecting the native ecosystem, wildlife habitat and the open viewscape for future generations.

Thirty people attended the joint outing. Kelly Kindscher, KLT President and plant ecologist, led our foray. Kelly explained that Blue Wild-indigo (*Baptisia australis*) is one of several plants that can become tumbleweeds. The above-ground growth breaks off naturally after the seeds mature, a great way to expand the plant's range as the seeds travel. A new plant for my life list was Nodding Green-violet (*Hybanthus verticillatus*). It has tiny blooms slightly smaller than the size of a pencil eraser. I was told the flowers look orchid-like under a microscope. Also among the plants we saw blooming were: Showy Beardtongue (*Penstemon cobaea*), Shell-leaf Beardtongue (*Penstemon grandiflorus*), Old Plainsman (*Hymenopappus scabiosaeus*), Tuberous Indian-plantain (*Arnoglossum plantagineum*), and Umbellate Bastard Toad-flax (*Comandra umbellata*).

The prairie is being carefully managed; while the hilltops are hayed, the lower areas

are rested. The prairie has not been grazed for the last four years, and it was burned in April. This was a great opportunity for our two organizations to work together to protect this beautiful place and see the environs our donations will protect. For further information, contact Kansas Land Trust Executive Director, RoxAnne Miller <RoxAnn.Miller@klt.org> (785) 749-3297.

Shirley Braunlich



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Wildflower
Society

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Membership Information



Kansas
Wildflower
Society

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL

Annual dues are for a 12-month period from January 1-December 31. Dues paid after December 1 are applied to the next year.

Name:	
Address:	
City/State:	
Zipcode:	
Phone:	
E-Mail:	

Please complete this form or a photocopy of it. Send the completed form and a check payable to the Kansas Wildflower Society to:

Kansas Wildflower Society
R.L. McGregor Herbarium
2045 Constant Avenue
Lawrence, KS 66047-3729

Check membership category desired:

- Student \$5.00
- Individual \$15.00
- Family \$20.00
- Organization \$20.00
- Contributing \$100.00
- Lifetime \$500.00

Check membership category desired:

A membership in the Kansas Wildflower Society makes a great gift for friends and family members. Recipients of gift memberships will receive notification of your gift membership within two weeks of receipt of your check by the KWS Administrative Office.