

2017 Cure for Cabin Fever Sunday, January 22, 2-4 p.m. in the Konza Stone Barn

This year's Cure for Cabin Fever is a sure winner, with three outstanding features to delight the senses.

PROGRAM: "Winter Bird Feeding, a Breath of Spring"

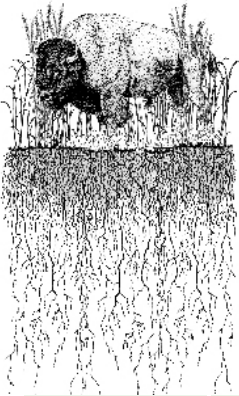


At 2:00 *Chuck Otte*, Geary County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources and long-time Kansas birder, will give a talk on backyard bird feeding, "Winter Bird Feeding, a Breath of Spring." Chuck is an authority on lots of things and is accomplished at sharing his wisdom with area residents. You can catch his daily radio show on Junction City's KJCK radio. There is also a wealth of information available at his "Gardening with Chuck" website,

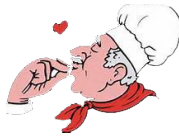
<http://www.geary.k-state.edu/lawn-garden/gardening-with-chuck/index.html>

MUSIC: The Buffalo Wingnuts

If you have frequented the Manhattan Saturday Farmer's Market during summer and fall, you have most likely enjoyed listening to The Buffalo Wingnuts' old time and bluegrass music. Musicians are John Richard, Bob Hughes, Arlon Meek, and George LeRoux. The band formed when one small, local environmentalist rounded up three good musicians to band together to support local environmental partners of Konza. This group will entertain us after Chuck's talk.



FOOD: The Soups



And there is "The Soup," pots and pots of soup, from chili to chowder, broth-based, bisque-based, vegetable, chicken, beef, bison, cheese, vegan, home-style and exotic. FOKP members who would like to bring a pot of their favorite soup may contact Cindy Quinlan at (785) 776-5163, cydq.44@gmail.com, or feel free to just bring the soup.

Research

Education

Conservation

FOKP Cure for Cabin Fever

Sunday, January 22, 2-4 p.m.
Chuck Otte - 2:00 p.m.
Buffalo Wingnuts - Bluegrass music
Dinner - Soups





Outgoing FOKP President Joe Gelroth

Many Thanks.

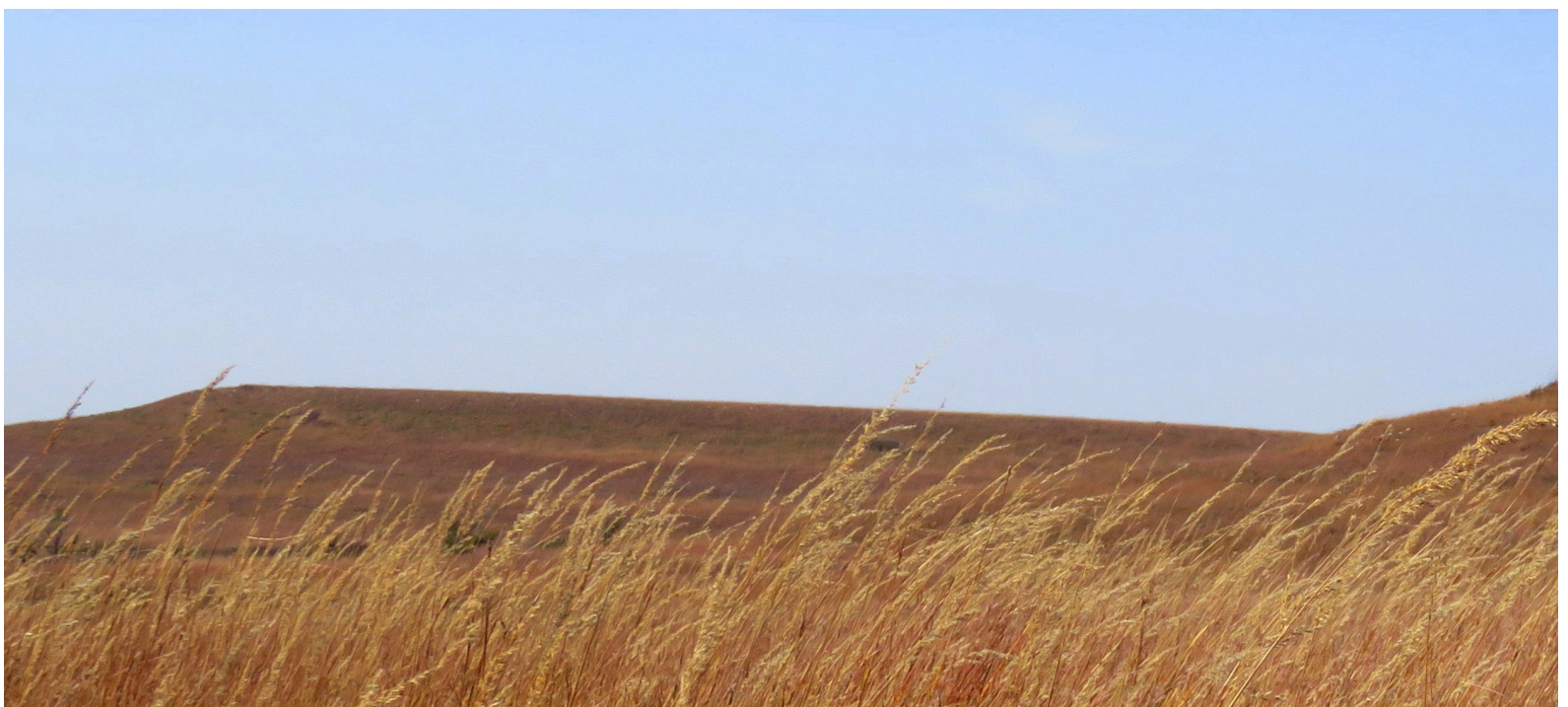
As I look forward to 2017, there is much as a member of the Friends of Konza Prairie for which I am thankful. First, I'm thankful for the 23 years that Tom Van Slyke has faithfully served as Konza Prairie Site Manager. Under his guidance and cooperative management, facilities have been built and renovated. The bison herd has grown, is healthy, and is prospering. His involvement in the fire management program has helped set a standard for other controlled burning operations. A program of invasive species control has been implemented. He has encouraged improvements to the Konza Nature Trail System so that thousands of visitors can enjoy the benefits of hiking on a nationally recognized nature trail system. Tom leaves site management responsibilities in the capable hands of Jim Larkins, operations foreman, Patrick O'Neal, fire boss, and Jeff Taylor, herd manager.

Second, I'm thankful for the continued growth and success of the Konza Environmental Education Program under the leadership of Jill Haukos. This past year, with the help of Halley Hatfield, Ashley Thackrah, and many docent volunteers, KEEP has again provided an outstanding nature experience for thousands of school children.

Third, I'm thankful for the quality research opportunities that the Konza Prairie Biological Station provides for the advancement of basic scientific understanding into the complex ecology of the tallgrass prairie. Dr. John Briggs continues to emphasize the scientific research priorities vital to the success of this world-renowned research facility.

Fourth, I'm thankful for the members of the FOKP Board of Directors. This dedicated group of volunteers provides the wisdom and guidance that is necessary for the operational success of our organization. The board will miss Chuck Bussing and Elizabeth Dodd, and is looking forward to the contributions that Cydney Alexis and Allie Lousch will provide.

Finally, I'm thankful for you, the members and supporters of the Friends of Konza Prairie. Your continued support- in time, in talent, and in financial resources- has strengthened and will hopefully continue to strengthen the role that FOKP plays in the future success of Konza Prairie.



Incoming FOKP President Donna McCullum



As a child, growing up in Chase County, Kansas surrounded by the tallgrass prairie, my world was rather small consisting of rolling hills, tall grasses, pheasants, prairie chicken, lots of wonderful song birds, cattle and cowboys. I imagined everywhere was like this. Unfortunately, I have learned that my world was unique and shrinking.

As many of you know, the tallgrass prairie once covered 170 million acres of North America. Within a short amount of time, the majority of this was plowed under and developed. Now less than 4% remains, mostly here in the Kansas Flint Hills. It is so very important that this 4% of the tallgrass prairie remains and is protected. At the heart of the Flint Hills is our Konza Prairie Biological Station, the most intensively studied grassland on earth. The Konza Prairie Biological Station is operated as a field research station by the K-State Division of Biology. It is dedicated to a three-fold mission of long-term ecological research, education and prairie conservation. The station is open to scientists and students from throughout the world.

Because of my interest in the tallgrass prairie I became a docent for the Konza. It is very rewarding to educate children and encourage their awareness and understanding about the tallgrass prairie. According to the Docent handbook, a docent at Konza is a volunteer who is essentially a teacher but most importantly is an interpreter of the tallgrass prairie and Konza Prairie Biological Station. I encourage people to consider becoming a docent for the Konza. It is fun, educational and you get exercise in the process.



Photo by Jill Haukos



KPBS Director Dr. John Briggs

Dear members of the Friends of Konza Prairie,

It is early December and finally we are expected to get some colder weather. It has been a warm, warm fall and I was picking tomatoes and peppers out of my garden until very late in November! I don't mind the warmer weather as I really don't like cold weather but looking at the global warming record setting pace for 2016 it is almost scary. There is no doubt that 2016 will surpass 2015 as the warmest year ever recorded by NASA. I did not imagine that in my lifetime the global average concentration of CO₂ in the Earth's atmosphere would reach 0.04% or 400 parts per million. I was really naive and thought our political leaders would take action to slow down our burning of fossil fuels, as we have known for a long time that with increased levels of CO₂ in the Earth's atmosphere, global warming would increase. However, that is not the case and like I said earlier, it is scary what the future holds for us.

On a more local scale, another year of burning is over on KPBS as we completed the fall burns on the 10th of November. The burn schedule for 2017 is on the KPBS home page (<http://kpbs.konza.k-state.edu/>) and our next burns will be in late January or early February. I have been asked numerous times why we have so many watersheds that are burned on a low fire return rate and I respond that KPBS is analogous to a cancer lab in that you have to have some "unhealthy patients" (e.g. watersheds not burned) to help understand the disease or the ecological process you are interested in. However, over 76% of KPBS is burned at a fire frequency of one to three years, 15% of KPBS is burned every four years and only 9% of KPBS is burned at a low fire frequency rate. The experimental design that Lloyd Hulbert established in the 1970's has provided a wonderful research platform that has vastly increased our knowledge of how the

tallgrass prairie operates. As of 01 Dec. 2016, KPBS researchers have published over 1,670 scientific papers, including over 261 Master's theses or Ph.D. dissertations! And I would argue that the reason KPBS has been so successful is the core experiment of fire and grazing.

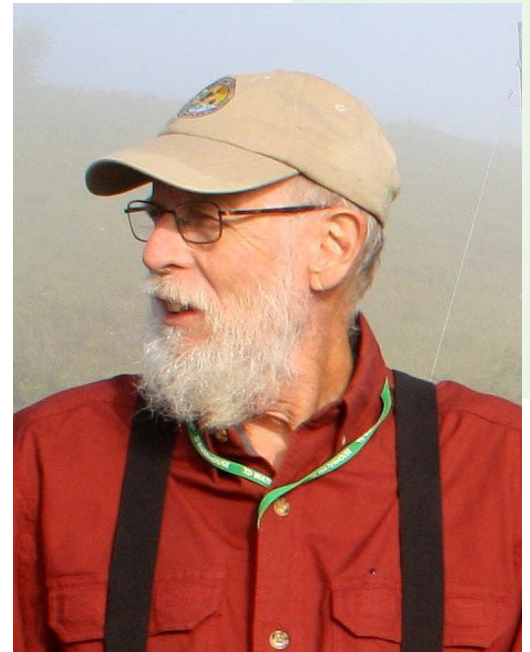
Finally, at the end of this month, Tom Van Slyke is retiring as site manager of KPBS. He started 01 August 1993 and he will be missed. He was extremely dedicated to KPBS and had a very positive attitude that has served KPBS well; even when he was dealing with folks wanting to ride horses on the Nature Trail, or wanted to walk their "special" dog on the trail. In addition, he had to deal with hundreds of Ph.D. types who thought what they were doing was the most important thing in the world. The legacy that he created on Konza will endure for a very long time. He was involved with the construction/modification of every building on-site except for the Ecological Lab and the chicken coop. And he worked so many times on the Ecological Lab that he almost remade it! He was responsible for setting up the procedures for graveling the roads and he instituted the invasive species program that is now a vital part of our on-site maintenance. Congratulations to Tom on his retirement; he is special and I wish him only the best!

As always, please contact me (jbriggs1@ksu.edu; 785-532-0140) if you have any questions or concerns about KPBS as we try to continue to develop as one of the finest biological field stations in the world.

--john

John M. Briggs
Professor of Biology
Director of Konza Prairie Biological Station
Kansas State University
Division of Biology 104 Ackert Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506
785-532-0140

Docent Profile: Gary Breckon



Gary Breckon is a graduate of the 2011 docent class along with his wife, Mary. Prior to becoming a humble docent, the esteemed Dr. Breckon was a Professor of Botany at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, for 30 years, where he specialized in plant taxonomy and plant ecology and directed and curated the university's herbarium. We are very grateful that Gary and Mary decided to join the docent program and to become familiar with the tallgrass prairie. He is now so familiar with the prairie that he is currently documenting all of the vascular plants of Konza Prairie and plans to update the list that was originated by Gene Towne. I had a chance to chat with Gary recently and asked him the typical "Docent Spotlight" questions:

1. What motivated you to become a Konza Prairie docent? "I didn't want to give up teaching. (Being a docent) gave me a chance to interact with students again. When I first started teaching, I taught a class at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. I loved the kindergarten- 3rd graders because they loved to learn! They were a thrill to take out. It was so neat! Being a docent got me back outside into nature. We live in the city now, and the natural areas in Topeka aren't really being "outside". We also got to learn about the natural history of Kansas."
2. What are some of your hobbies & interests? "Oh boy, gardening, woodworking, reading. I do a lot of reading. I spend a lot of time with natural history and naming plants and watching birds. Mary loves to feed the birds."
3. What has been the best part of being a volunteer at Konza Prairie? "There are 3 parts: 1. Being out in nature. 2. Interacting with people, other docents and having a good "jefa", and 3. Working with the students. I especially like the high school students- I can relate to them."
4. What brings you the most joy in your life? "My family. I have a wonderful wife, kids, grandkids and great grandkids. Nature- I love the birds coming to the feeder, working in my native plants garden, hiking with the Saturday morning Earl group and discovering new things on Konza. I want to thank Konza Prairie for the opportunities it has given us."



Photos by Jill Haukos



From the Stone House

Director of Education
Jill Haukos

It is a crisp and cool autumn on the prairie and winter is a coming promise. Like clockwork, the red-tailed hawks and northern harriers have arrived and are feasting on the abundance of mice and voles. The vibrant colors of early autumn, the yellows and reds, have softly changed to the deep gold of senescent grasses and forbs. They've finished their life cycles and the energy they absorbed from the summer sun has been diverted in two directions, up and down. The energy that went down is stored in the form of starch in roots, rhizomes, tubers, and corms – the literal root cellar of the prairie.

The energy that went up the plant is used to make the seeds and the process of making seeds is laborious business. Seeds only form once sperm inside pollen grains have been delivered from one plant to another of the same species. The sperm work their way down the pistil of the flower, where they join the ovule nestled in the ovary of the prairie flower. Sometimes, it's animals that accomplish this task of cross-pollination; the graceful prairie butterflies and the industrious bees, but don't be fooled, the animals don't have a clue that they've been conscripted into this job. Butterflies don't "know" that they're pollinators. They do know that the nectar at the base of the flower is delicious and if they visit enough flowers they'll get enough food. The plant, through millions of years of evolution, has developed a process of using animals to pick up and deliver pollen. This won't be the only example of plants using animals and their mobility.

Animal delivery isn't the only way for pollination to be accomplished. Many plants of the prairie, grasses especially, utilize the omnipresent wind to disperse their pollen grains. Because wind isn't specific, it doesn't necessarily deliver the correct pollen to the correct



Seeds from the common milkweed
(*Asclepias syriaca*)



Yellow male stamens and white female pistils of the subtle grass flower that extend themselves out to the wind.



Seed heads of *Liatris* glowing in the sun.

Photos by Jill Haukos

plant, species that are wind pollinated invest their energy in producing prodigious amounts of pollen, banking on the law of averages that at least some of the correct pollen will land in the right spot. Humans with allergies are all too familiar with this concept! Contrarily, wind-pollinated plants don't invest energy into large, colorful, sweet-smelling flowers. Their flowers are small and nondescript but have their stamens and pistils hanging out to the wind.

Seeds are the promise of a genetically unique new individual. A seed contains a plant embryo, a food source (endosperm), and a protective seed coat. Have you ever noticed that you've never seen a "fat" plant? Plants do produce fats – typically in the form of unsaturated fats/oils, whereas animals produce saturated fats, like lard. When plants have more energy than they need for primary functions they store it, usually underground. Some fat goes into the seed. Some plants like peanuts, cashews, olives, walnuts and corn have quite a bit of fat in their seed.

Once formed and fully mature, all the seed needs is to be dispersed – and the wind is the obvious choice for delivery. Many of the seeds of the prairie come equipped with tufts, wings, and feathers to aid in their flight. Other plants utilize animals and their mobility to disperse their seeds. The tick clover and the cocklebur are both experts in this method. Once dispersed, the seed is on its own. The published literature on the composition of plants at Konza Prairie mentions the fact that approximately 95% of spring plant growth is from underground rhizomes or other storage structures. In other words, approximately 5% of plants germinate from seed. Life is tough for seeds on the prairie.

Now is one of the best times to view all of these seeds while they're waiting to be dispersed. The plants look aglow with fine, feathery tufts. During school group tours, docents will often ask the kids to find some prairie seeds and help disperse the seeds into the wind. It does the plant no good for the seeds to drop near the parent – the plant can only be aided by pulling out those seeds and throwing them into the future!



Photo by Jill Haukos

Clementine Paddleford and “The Burtis Ranch” submitted by Joe Gelroth

Clementine Paddleford was born in Stockdale, Kansas, a town that was submerged after the construction of Tuttle Creek Dam. Clementine, on the other hand, rose to become our nation’s top food writer, with columns in The New York Herald Tribune, This Week, Farm & Fireside, and Gourmet newspapers and magazines in the 1930’s through the 1960’s. She covered the food stories behind the major events of her era, including Queen Elizabeth II’s coronation and Winston Churchill’s Iron Curtain speech. Her book, *How America Eats*, was published in 1960. Paddleford’s papers have been donated to Hale Library on the KSU Campus. (5)

George H. Davis purchased the Dewey Ranch in 1931. See the accompanying timeline and land sale announcement for context. Davis and his brothers had been forced to quit school after 8th grade, due to a family tragedy. Davis rose from his first job as messenger boy for a grain company to director of operations, and at age 24 he obtained a seat on the Kansas City Board of Trade. Davis was a life-long successful businessman who utilized a simple formula: choose the right thing to invest in, and then choose the very best and successful people to manage the operations.

Orville Burtis, Sr., had been handpicked by George H. Davis in the 1930’s to oversee the operations and cattle-management enterprises at the Dewey Ranch in Riley County, KS. In 1947, Davis named Burtis’s son, Orville, Jr., to oversee all of his ranching operations. The Burtises were skillful ranch managers and were also mainstay contributors to the Ashland Bottoms farming community and social scene. They followed upon the Dewey reputation of throwing grand parties, with a scaled-back, welcoming, country-style hospitality. Accordingly, the property became known locally as “The Burtis Ranch”.

Please enjoy the reprint of an occasion when the famous Clementine Paddleford came home to Riley County for a visit, and attend one of the Burtis gatherings. This might be characterized as a golden age, both for Paddleford, and for the Burtis family.

~Karen Hummel



Mrs. Gertrude Burtis serves chili to (left to right) Don Macintosh, Karen Burtis, and Corbet Jones. When you go to the Burtis Ranch, you eat hearty. Usually the menu is hot chili or a special stew. Ashland Bottoms, KS. (Spring 1952)

Edited from: *How America Eats* - Chili Party By Clementine Paddleford.

When you go to the Burtis Ranch, you eat hearty. Usually the menu is hot chili or a special stew. Ashland Bottoms, Kansas (Spring 1952). There is no perfume in the world like the springtime smell of prairie air. This morning it had a warm green scent which the heat distilled from the endless waves of grass. I took a deep breath of it and turned the car off the main highway up the narrow creek road. The plum thicket in the ravine was a starry shower of white against the red buds with their pink banners unfurled. Beyond the slough the hills rolled up to meet the sky; there cross-bred cattle grazed on the first greening of the bluestem grass.

I had come back to my home state to visit the Orville Burtis Ranch in Ashland Bottoms, near Manhattan, Kansas. This place, which Orville and Gertrude Burtis operate in full partnership, totals 7,000 acres. Once this was a part of the famous Dewey Ranch, where mules were raised to work at Fort Riley, 12 miles away. Around 1910, when the 17 room house was built, local folks spoke of it in a hushed, awed way. Wealthy Chauncey Dewey brought his friends from Kansas City to party here, to ride and hunt and make merry, whole weeks at a time. He built the floor of the hay mow of narrow pine boards, a place so large 200 could dance there. Orchestras were imported from as far away as St. Louis to make the welkin ring.

Crowd supper parties are a frequent event, but no imported pâté de foie gras, no globe artichokes from France, no grouse from old Scotland à la Dewey days. Mrs. Burtis makes stew or maybe a tub full of chili. Either dish has a rib-sticking quality that makes you young beyond your time. The meat is taken from her well-stocked 30-foot locker – it’s home-grown steer beef.

Mrs. Burtis is a community doer. In 1947 she was made a Master Home Maker, an honor bestowed annually by magazine “Kansas Farmer”. She has been a 4-H Club leader now for eight years. She is president of the Riley County Home Demonstration Council, a Past Matron of Eastern Star, a member of Soroptimist, a business woman’s organization. She is a partner, remember, in this cattle ranching operation.

For two years she has served as a member of the State Board of Education. In 1947, when she was chosen by the Associated Country Women of the World as a delegate to an Amsterdam meeting on conditions of rural women, she confided, “I learned then that life begins at fifty.” She is a proud member of the League of Women Voters. But maybe the job she enjoys most is teaching her Sunday-school class of Young married people in the Ashland Community Church. Once a year she invites the class to the Burtis ranch and “bring your family” is the invitation. That night, chili is the grand dish.

We like to never get around to talking recipes. By the time I had taken a look into the big freezer, enjoyed the view to the East from the living-room picture window, made a survey of the yard, met the cockers, saw the saddle horses (40 in all), talked about cattle, then sat down to recipe-writing, it was a westering sun that slant-rayed the plum thicket.

We sat at the table in the big kitchen, measuring 25 by 14 feet. The wall frieze here is hand painted, made of 143 different cattle brands. So many things to admire. Opening to the kitchen is the dining room, with a fire place big enough to roast a whole steer. Over the mantel the skull of a western longhorn.

But about those recipes. It’s a meat stew when the crowd gathers and the stew is the meal, this with a tossed salad or a green-vegetable munch plate and the butterhorn rolls. In winter, the ice cream or pie for dessert; in summer, it’s ice cream or watermelon.

Burtis Ranch Stew

5 pounds beef round, cubed
4 pounds potatoes, peeled and diced
2 pounds carrots, scraped and diced
2 large onions, grated

Brown meat in its own fat in a large kettle. Add 2½ quarts (10 cups) water. Cover and simmer 2 to 2½ hours, or until meat is tender. The last 30 minutes, add vegetables and continue to simmer until tender but not mushy. Yield: 10 to 12 generous portions.

This stew at first glance is so simply done, you wonder why it's wonderful. The answer is that it tastes like meat, plainly seasoned, and no tomatoes to detract from the flavor.

Butterhorn Rolls

1 envelope dry yeast or 1 cake compressed yeast
¼ cup warm water
¾ cup scalded milk
½ cup melted shortening
½ cup sugar
1 teaspoon salt
3 eggs, beaten
4½ cups sifted all-purpose flour

Dissolve dry yeast in warm, not hot, water (lukewarm for cake yeast) for 10 minutes. Combine milk, shortening, sugar and salt, cool to lukewarm. Stir in dissolved yeast and eggs. Gradually add flour, stirring with wooden spoon after each addition. Knead in last portion of flour with hands, if necessary. Knead continuously in bowl to a smooth elastic dough. Cover and let rise until double in bulk, about 1 hour. Punch dough down; divide in two. Roll each half on lightly floured board to a 12-inch circle of ¼ inch thickness. Brush with melted butter. Cut each circle into 16 wedge-shaped pieces; roll each wedge, starting with rounded edge and rolling to point. Arrange far apart on greased baking sheet with points underneath. Brush with melted butter. Cover and let rise until light (45 to 50 minutes). Bake in hot oven (400°F.) 12 to 15 minutes. Yield: 32 rolls.

Chili Bowl

4 pounds red kidney beans
3 No. 10 cans tomato juice or 6½ No. 5 cans
4 Tablespoons salt
¼ cup chili powder
10 pounds chuck beef, ground
1 medium-size onion, grated

Wash beans; cover with cold water and soak overnight in large heavy kettle. Cover and cook beans in water in which they have soaked. Simmer 2½ to 3 hours or until beans are tender, adding tomato juice from time to time to keep beans covered as liquid boils away. Add salt. Remove ½ cup of liquid from beans and blend with chili powder to make a paste; add to beans, blending well. Cook beef in large skillet, stirring continuously until all the particles are browned. Add beef and grated onions to beans. Cook mixture over low heat, stirring continuously, about 5 minutes longer. Serve with rolls or crackers. Approximate yield: 30 portions.

- 1682 LaSalle, French Explorer, ignores indigenous peoples' occupancy and precedence of residency, proclaims drainage area of Mississippi River in name of Louis XIV, a French possession, "Louisiana". (1)
- 1803 USA purchases Louisiana territory west of the Mississippi River for \$15 million. (1)
- 1825- 1846 Indigenous tribes are recognized as independent nations, stripped of lands and relocated via treaty arrangements. This resulted in U.S. Public Domain Land. (1)
- 1846 The Kansa cede land west of Fort Riley in exchange for land southeast of Council Grove. The Kanza receive payment of \$202,000 for the land. (1)
- 1862 US Congress passes the Homestead Act. Land within 10 miles on either side of designated railroad tracks are allocated to various railroads. Adult citizens who have not borne arms against the US may claim 160 acres of surveyed public land, provided they make improvements and establish residence on the property as required by the law. (2)
- 1872 C. P. Dewey starts purchasing land in the area that would become Konza Prairie. (3)
- 1887-1888 The harsh winter of 1886 drives many area cattlemen out of business. C. P. Dewey purchases their lands, expanding his holdings to more than 5000 acres. (3)
- 1904 C. P. Dewey dies, leaving son Chauncey Dewey in charge of the Dewey ranch and holdings. (3)
- 1911- 1912 The stone barn and stone ranch house are constructed by Walter Burr, local stonemason. (3)
- 1930 The Dewey Ranch is put up for forced sale by Geary and Riley Counties, due to mismanagement by Chauncey Dewey. The Geary County land is sold to Providential Institute for Savings, then by Josephine Cobb, former governor Alf Landon's mother-in-law. (3)
- 1931 George H. Davis purchases the 6600 acre Riley County ranch for \$120,000 and hires Orville Burtis, Sr. to manage the ranch and to partner in raising cattle. (4)**
- 1947 Davis names Orville Burtis, Jr., to serve as overseer for all of his ranch holdings. (4)**
- 1948 Davis purchases the Hokanson homestead land. (3)**
- 1955 George H. Davis dies, and Dewey ranch property is put up for sale. (2)**
- 1956 Frank McDermand purchases the Dewey ranch property. (3)
- 1967 McDermand purchases the White pasture property. (3)
- 1972 The ranch is sold to Dr. David McKnight. (3)
- 1977 The Nature Conservancy purchases the ranch, for the Konza Prairie Research Natural Area. (3)
- 1979 The Nature Conservancy purchases the Thowe property to become a part of Konza. (3)

References:

1. Parrish, Donald. This Land Is Our Land, The Public Domain in the Vicinity of Riley County and Manhattan, Kansas. Manhattan, Kansas: Riley County Historical Society, 2003.
2. Our Documents- Homestead Act (1862). <https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=true&doc=31>
3. Given, Charlie. History of the Dewey Ranch. 2004. <http://keep.konza.ksu.edu/about/dewey.htm>
4. The History of the Davis Ranch BY WABAUNSEECOMUSEUM ON OCTOBER 24, 2016 •Greg Hoots <https://wabaunseecomuseum.org/2016/10/24/the-history-of-the-davis-ranch/>
5. Kansapedia, Kansas State Historical Society. <http://www.kshs.org/kansapedia/clementine-paddleford/12162>

8th Annual Visions of the Flint Hills Art Show and Benefit

The Gala Opening of the 2016 Visions of the Flint Hills took place October 7th at Buttonwood Art Space in Kansas City. We thank Jon and Wendy McGraw and the wonderful staff at Buttonwood for launching another gorgeous show.

Jean Cook, an established Kansas City artist who grew up on a farm in Kansas, curated and juried the show. 140 remarkable pieces from 47 artists depicted the drama and beauty of the Flint Hills grasslands. You can view the awards, all of the art and the list of artists entered in the show at <http://visionsoftheflinthills.org>

We were very happy to see Barb Van Slyke's photography in this show. She has been a consistent contributor to the FOKP calendar and it is gratifying to see her reach a wider audience with this recognition. Lookin' good, Barb!

Buttonwood added a new element to the show this year. The Art Space asked Jill Haukos to provide material explaining the Konza Environmental Education Program (KEEP) to the Kansas City audience that might not know about K-12 education on Konza. The result was a set of beautiful panels that were placed alongside the art. These panels illustrate the quality and importance of the immersive experience schoolchildren have at Konza.

We specially thank our loyal and generous sponsors pictured on the poster that was displayed for the duration of the show. Your support directly benefits the KEEP program. This year's sponsors include The Trust Company, Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community, Briggs Auto, Little Apple Toyota, Burnette's Automotive and Ladybird Diner.



Barb Van Slyke and photo

Visions of the Flint Hills

AN ART SHOW
BENEFITTING

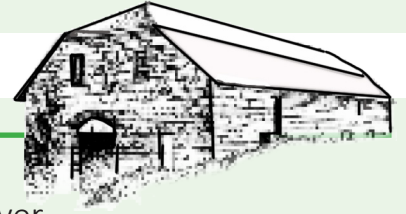


THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

If you are an artist, please consider entering your work in the Visions juried show. The Call for Art will be in May. If you are a fan of the Flint Hills, FOKP and KEEP, please join us for the 9th Annual Gala Opening of Visions at Buttonwood Art Space on Friday, Oct. 6th, 2017.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday, January 22, 2017 , 2:00 pm- Stone Barn; Cure for Cabin Fever

Saturday, January 28, 2017, 10:00 am- Stone Barn; Docent Roundup and Awards

Tuesday, February 28, 2017, 9:00 am- Hulbert Center; Docent training will be held 9 am- 12 noon Tuesday- Friday Feb 28- March 10, with autumn session Aug 22-25

March 16- April 23, 2017 Greater prairie-chicken viewing, reservations required. (TBD, based on identification of an active lek)

June 4, 2017, Wildflower Walk

June 12- 16, 2017, KEEP Summer Teacher's Workshop



Photo by Jill Haukos

The Autumn Calf

Educators, libraries, and schools –
To request a **free** copy of
“The Autumn Calf”
simply contact:
Konza Environmental Director of Education
Jill Haukos konzaed@ksu.edu
(785) 587-0381



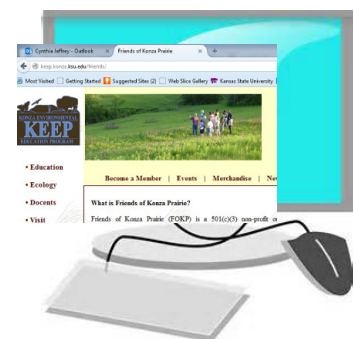
2017 FOKP Calendar

Available at the Annual Meeting. Cash, checks and credit cards accepted. Calendars are \$15 and available at Claflin Books, the Flint Hills Discovery Center, Kansas Kollection in the mall, and the Geary County Historical Society in Junction City.



Follow the Friends of Konza Prairie on Facebook!

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request to receive this newsletter electronically as a pdf file;
just contact:
Patrick Gormely gormely@ksu.edu
and please put “FOKP e-B&B.” in the subject line.



<http://keep.konza.ksu.edu/friends>

Elected FOKP Board Members

Diane Barker, 2nd term, 2017
Joe Gelroth, 2nd term, 2019
Shelly Gunderson, 2nd term, 2018
John Harrington, 1st term, 2018
Karen Hummel, 2nd term, 2017
Allie Lousch, 1st term, 2019
Donna McCallum, 2nd term, 2019
Cindy Quinlan, 2nd term, 2018
John Reese, 2nd term, 2017
Lucas Shivers, 1st term, 2018
Ken Stafford, 1st term, 2017

FOKP Standing Committees

Executive/Finance Committee

1. Donna McCallum, President (donna@ksu.edu)
2. John Harrington, President-elect
3. Diane Barker, Secretary
4. Shelly Gunderson, Treasurer
5. John Briggs, (*ex-officio*, KPBS Director)

Nominating Committee (pres.-elect is Chair, 2 Board members who are not officers, 2 FOKP members at large appointed by President, and KPBS Director, who is a voting member)

1. John Harrington, Chair (jharrin@ksu.edu)
2. Lucas Shivers, (Board member)
3. Chuck Bussing, (FOKP member)
4. Ann Murphy, (FOKP member)
5. John Briggs, (*ex-officio*, KPBS Director)
6. Donna McCallum, (*ex-officio*, FOKP President)

Membership Committee (2 Board members appointed by Pres., may have additional members)

1. Joe Gelroth, Chair (joe.gelroth@gmail.com)
2. John Reese (Board member)
3. John Harrington (Board member)
6. John Briggs, (*ex-officio*, KPBS Director)
7. Donna McCallum, (*ex-officio*, FOKP President)

Volunteer Engagement Committee (Chair, 1 FOKP Board member, KPBS Director, KPBS Site manager, KPBS Director of Education)

1. Ken Stafford, Chair
2. Joe Gelroth (Board Member)
3. Tom VanSlyke (Site Manager)
4. John Briggs, (KPBS Director)
5. Jill Haukos (Director of Education)
5. Donna McCallum, (*ex-officio*, FOKP President)

Committee

Executive, Finance, Publications
Membership Chair, Volunteer Engagement
Executive/Finance, **Sales & Marketing Chair**, Development
Nominating Chair, Executive/Finance,
Publications Chair, Sales & Marketing
Publications, Sales & Marketing
Executive/Finance Chair, Program, ex-officio on all others
Program, Volunteer Engagement
Membership, Development
Development Chair, Nominating
Volunteer Engagement Chair

Development Committee (Chair, 1 FOKP Board member, Treasurer, Foundation rep)

1. Lucas Shivers, Chair (lucass@usd383.org)
2. Shelly Gunderson, (FOKP Treasurer)
3. John Reese, (Board member)
4. Connie Hall (FOKP member)
5. Shelley Carver, (*ex-officio*, KSU Foundation)
6. John Briggs, (*ex-officio*, KPBS Director)
7. Donna McCallum, (*ex-officio*, FOKP President)

Sales and Marketing Committee (Chair, 1 Board member, others as needed)

1. Shelly Gunderson, Chair (jcshellyg@gmail.com)
2. Allie Lousch, (Board member)
3. Stormy Kennedy, Honorary
4. John Briggs, (*ex-officio*, KPBS Director)
5. Donna McCallum, (*ex-officio*, FOKP President)

Program Committee (Chair, 1 Board member, KPBS Asst. Director, Environmental Educator)

1. Chair
2. Cindy Quinlan (Board member)
3. Jill Haukos, (Director of Education)
4. John Briggs, (*ex-officio*, KPBS Director)
5. Donna McCallum, (*ex-officio*, FOKP President)

Publications Committee (Editor of *Bison & Bluestem*, others as needed)

1. Karen Hummel, Chair (kchummel1@gmail.com)
2. Cindy Jeffrey (Editor of *Bison & Bluestem*)
3. Diane Barker (Board member)
4. Greg Zolnerowich (FOKP member)
5. Allie Lousch (Board member)
6. Jill Haukos (Director of Education)
7. Valerie Wright (honorary)
8. John Briggs, (*ex-officio*, KPBS Director)
9. Joe Gelroth, (*ex-officio*, FOKP President)

Ex officio and Honorary members

The Nature Conservancy	Robert Manes	KSU Foundation	Shelley Carver
KPBS Director	John Briggs	Historian	Charlie Given
Director of Education	Jill Haukos	Honorary Board Members	Stormy Kennedy
KSU Faculty Rep.	Tony Joern		Valerie Wright

Director

John Briggs, Ph.D.

Administrative Asst.

Barb Van Slyke

Director of Education

Jill Haukos

Site Manager

Tom Van Slyke

Assistant Director

Eva Horne, Ph.D.

Shop Foreman

Jim Larkins

Assistant Environmental Educator

Halley Hatfield

The Friends of Konza Prairie (FOKP) promote the interests of Konza Prairie Biological Station as they pertain to its mission of Research, Education and Conservation. Membership in FOKP is open to all individuals, groups and businesses that share an interest in the common goal of supporting the Konza Prairie Biological Station. For FOKP membership and general information, call 785-587-0441, or visit the Konza Environmental Education Program (KEEP) website at: <http://keep.konza.ksu.edu> Also, see the back of this issue for a membership form.

Friends of Konza Prairie
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