

# FALL ANNUAL MEETING

& Bluestem



## Friends of Konza Prairie Annual Meeting Sunday, September 24, 2023

4:00 pm Annual Meeting in the Stone Barn. Updates from KPBS Director and FOKP President, overview of FOKP finances from Treasurer, election of new FOKP board members, vote on amendments to FOKP bylaws, introduction of 2023 Docent Class and the newest “Konza Rock Star” award winners

5:00 pm Bison Burger Potluck on the Hulbert Center Patio

Please bring either a side dish or a dessert

RSVP if you want a burger – [keeped@ksu.edu](mailto:keeped@ksu.edu) or (785) 587-0381

6:00 pm Bison Loop Tour - school buses available to take you on a guided tour of the bison area. Expect the tour to last 1.5 hrs.

Research

Education

Conservation

friends of  
**KONZA**  
prairie

FALL 2023

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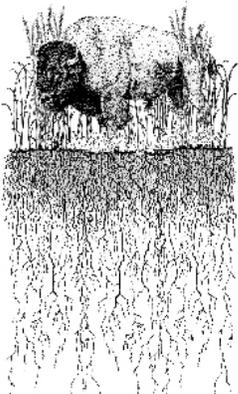
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Bison

## KPBS Director's Report

### John Blair



I like to use the fall newsletter to look back on summer activities at the Konza Prairie Biological Station. Summers are typically the busiest time of year for field stations, and we hosted a lot of visiting researchers this summer! This summer also included a review of the Konza Prairie Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) program by a panel commissioned by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The LTER program supports a large portion of the research done at the station and provides training for numerous undergraduate and graduate students. Konza Prairie was one of the first sites funded by the LTER program when it began in 1980. Each LTER site is funded through a competitive proposal process that requires renewal every six years. The mid-term site review is an opportunity for NSF to evaluate our research progress and provide feedback for the next renewal proposal. Preparing for these reviews is a lot of work, and K-State University Distinguished Professor Jesse Nippert did an outstanding job of leading the group effort. The review went very well, and the team's report was exceptionally positive. We are well-positioned for a successful grant renewal in 2026.

In preparation for the LTER review, we compiled a few metrics that I'd like to share with you. Did you know that research done at Konza Prairie has resulted in over 1,600 peer-reviewed scientific publications so far? We currently produce about 50 publications with new research findings every year. Research here has resulted in over 300 graduate student theses and dissertations and trained several generations of scientists and other professionals.

In just the last three years scientists and students from 35 different colleges and universities across the country have conducted research at Konza Prairie. They come here because Konza Prairie is recognized as the premier site for grassland studies and because we strive to provide an open, welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment for everyone.

We continue to share our research findings and discoveries with other scientists and with land managers, extension specialists, ranchers, and other practitioners. This past spring we worked with scientists from the EPA and US Forest Service on prescribed burning management. We gave research tours for the Western Rangeland Partnership, the US Joint Fire Science Program, the Great Plains Fire Exchange, and other groups focused on grassland management. I also shared Konza Prairie research on grassland biodiversity and ecosystem services at the Working Lands for Wildlife field tour in July.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Fall FOKP meeting. As always, thank you for supporting our research, education, outreach, and conservation activities. We could not do all we do without your support! Please feel free to contact me ([jblair@ksu.edu](mailto:jblair@ksu.edu); 785-532-7065) with any questions or concerns about Konza.





## Restoring your Prairie? Do it!

Have you ever considered restoring some prairie – maybe just a little corner, or maybe even an acre or two? Well, here's me telling you to do it! Don't get me wrong, it will take some work, maybe a lot of work. But it will be worth it. Your biggest hurdle will be prepping the soil. If you have land that was used for something other than native prairie then you'll have a boatload of seeds in the soil that will be happy to sprout and produce a lot of "disturbance species" like ragworts, prickly lettuce, and mare's tail. These are not plants you want.

The best way to avoid a field full of ragwort is to do this:

- **Determine the site** of your future prairie and assess the conditions.
- **Determine how big** your weed problem is. Does your site currently have some native species, or is it just dirt? Something in-between?
- **The best thing** you can do for your future prairie is to **eliminate the weeds** first. Herbicides will be your friend in this situation. Let the weeds germinate or grow (if they're perennials) and then spray them (I'd recommend a nonselective herbicide like Roundup/glyphosate – it will only work if it comes in contact with leaves and will be inactivated by contact with soil – thus eliminating issues with herbicide persistence in the soil). If the weeds come back (and they will), spray them again. Keep doing this. How long, you ask? For up to 2 years.
- **If your future prairie spot is small** enough you can do the cardboard method. Lay down cardboard and secure the whole thing with rocks (you should be able to find rocks in the Flint Hills). Leave it for a year. Pick up the rocks and the cardboard should be composted and the grass and weed seeds that were in the soil should have tried to grow and died with the lack of water and sun.

Once your soil is relatively free of weed seeds you can then plant:

- **Now your choices** are whether you wish to plant seeds or seedlings.
- **You'll get much better** success with seedlings, but they take a lot of work to plant and they're expensive.
- **Seeds are easier** – a lot easier – to plant, but their success is much, much lower. A little-known fact, most prairie plants are perennials, so established plants don't put a whole lot of energy into the production of viable seeds. They really don't need to. So if you gather seeds from local plants expect about 25% viability – but that still won't guarantee germination.
- **If you're going the seed route**, make an investment in a seed mixture from this area that has already been tested for viability.
- **Seed according to the instructions** from the producer. KSU Research & Extension also has recommendations for seeding and bed preparation.
- **If you go the seedling route**, I suggest planting them in the spring, to give the roots a chance to become established. Consider watering them once or twice a week until either Mother Nature gives you a hand with some rain or the plants seem to become established to where they can withstand a little dryness. Keep an eye on them!

In the winter edition of the Bison & Bluestem, I'll continue this article with some information on why you should want to restore some prairie.

See you out there! Jill



Photos by Jacque Staats and Dick Oberst -  
their restored Prairie

## FOKP President Brian McCornack



I am deeply grateful for your unwavering support and commitment to the preservation of Konza Prairie. Summer has flown by! But that also means that fall, my favorite season, is right around the corner. And the Bison Tour has been scheduled, and you won't want to miss it! Until then, I call upon each of you to help us continue to grow the membership of the Friends of Konza Prairie. By expanding our network, we will enhance our ability to protect and preserve this invaluable ecosystem. Aside from being a member, there are other ways you can contribute:

- **Spread the Word:** Share your passion for Konza Prairie and encourage others to visit and consider becoming members.
- **Volunteer:** Assist us with events or serve on the board. Your time and expertise can make a significant difference.
- **Engage with us:** Follow us on social media, attend events, and stay connected through our newsletters. Your active involvement will create a vibrant and engaged community.

Together, we can ensure that Konza Prairie remains a haven for wildlife, a center for scientific discovery, and a place of solace and inspiration for all. By growing our membership, we leave an enduring legacy for future generations. Thank you for your unwavering dedication. Your support is vital, and I am honored to work with such an amazing board, and we look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting in September.



## Change in Bylaws

On a related note, we are proposing several changes to our bylaws, which you can review here:

<https://tinyurl.com/395wsfc9>.

We restructured committees and added key support roles with the goal of streamlining operations and maximizing the expertise of our board members. You can view those changes using the link above, and a formal vote on the updated bylaws will occur at our annual meeting.

## 1. What motivated you to become a Konza Prairie Docent?

I've been a plant maniac from the time I was a teenager working at Kaw Valley Greenhouses that my parents founded in 1967. My apprenticeship in the horticultural business by means of parroting what I heard from the lips of my parents gave me a solid background for venturing into the plants/produce business on my own in 1976 (along with my sister) in retailing at Eastside & Westside Markets. While our knowledge of plants bred for use in the landscape was pretty complete, the only native plants I felt comfortable identifying were dandelions and henbit. I frequently visited Konza to train on running trails or hiking to get my grandkids interested in nature. It wasn't until I attended a Friends of Konza "Wildflower Walk" where I had the great fortune to have my group led by another plant enthusiast and Konza Docent, Earl Allen, that I began to entertain thoughts of joining the Docent ranks. Educational Director Jill Haukos nudged me at the signup table, suggesting as much. So when I retired from retailing in fall of '19, I signed up for Docent training to give me something to focus on.

## 2. What are some of your hobbies and interests?

Physical sports and activities like volleyball, tennis, swimming, kayaking, snorkeling, body surfing, and hiking are things I enjoy greatly—and I try to get my kids/grandkids involved, too. Running was my focus for over a decade, taking it up in my '50's. 5K is my favorite distance, but I've run some half marathons plus the spring and fall trail races at Konza. I help organize the Speedy PD race for Parkinsons and the Run for the Roses benefitting K-State Gardens, where I serve on the Friends of the Gardens Board. Since retirement, my average of reading 2 novels per year has increased to 2 per week. Hiking trails in national and state parks is an obsession. I'm a lifelong gardener and adventurous cook. After using the PictureThis app as a crash course in learning to identify native plants, I started cooking with them and paired up with my friend Sue Maes and former Konza Board Chairperson Kelly Yarbrough to teach "Edible Native Plants" classes for UFM—something Sue has done for over 40 years!

## 3. What has been the best part about being a Docent at Konza Prairie?

The best parts of being a docent at Konza are the opportunity for continuing education. My approach to plants had always been ornamentals in the yard, requiring irrigation, fertilization, and pest management. The ecological approach that is emphasized in Docent training opens up a whole new viewpoint for me. I couldn't help grinning throughout docent training and later through Advanced Naturalist Training. I would have paid big bucks for the experience, but here they were giving me the training, plus some perks like access to Butterfly Hill and a couple of drive-thrus in the bison pens! Secondly, the association with some incredibly well-educated and experienced fellow docents who happen to be fun to be around humbles me to no end. While I didn't get much of a chance to put my newfound knowledge to use on guiding schoolkids right off the bat due to Covid, once the buses arrived, it was gratifying to share my passion for nature and get them to see more of what's out there!

## 4. What brings you the most joy in your life?

Family and friends. Period. My husband Mike and I enjoy multi-generational trips to get the kids/grandkids active and golf trips with friends. Most of my 8 siblings stayed in the Manhattan area, so sibling rivalry is alive and well in the form of tennis, volleyball, cards, or anything else we can dream up.



# New Board Members

*Carmel Powers*



Carmel Powers presently works at K-State University in the Agronomy Department as an accounting specialist. She has worked in many different jobs: switchboard operator; photo stylist; sales representative; accountant; personal assistant to a department head; registered nurse; research coordinator; lab manager, and more. She is notable for her curiosity and insatiable thirst for learning and new experiences. Carmel is from Ireland, where farming is an important industry worth 1119 million Euro in the first quarter of 2023. She loves to experiment and is very creative. Her goal is to help her son start his bison ranch and she wants to have a few Nigerian pygmy goats and guinea fowl on the ranch. Essentially, her next experiment is this new ecosystem on the ranch. Meanwhile, she contents herself with cooking experiments. At least weekly She tries a new recipe at least once a week, possibly one she just dreamed up!

She believes in supporting the Konza because she values the research done there, and because she is interested in preserving and using natural resources in a sustainable manner. She is also a strong advocate for the educational programs at the Konza so that young people can immerse themselves in the milieu of this ecosystem. Although their visits may be short, the long-term impact can be far-reaching.

*Amy Meng*



Amy Meng has lived for 19 years in Manhattan, Kansas, with her husband, Louis, a local pediatrician, and their three boys, Daniel, age 20, Andrew, age 15, and Matthew, age 12. Daniel, a wildlife biology major, worked for Konza LTER this past summer. Amy graduated from Missouri State University, then went to the University of Nebraska Omaha to get her Master's in Public Administration with an emphasis in nonprofit management. After working for the Make-A-Wish Foundation in Washington, D.C., the Army brought her family to Fort Riley.

During the pandemic, Amy worked on converting their backyard lawn to native plants, which led her to become a Konza Docent in 2022. Currently, she enjoys photography and has been featured in issues of Kansas Magazine and Manhattan Magazine. She is currently working on a project to photograph native plants in beautiful light.

*Sarah Jackson*



As a current faculty member in the Park Management and Conservation Program at Kansas State University, Sarah has been blessed with pivotal opportunities to engage in a range of efforts involving natural resources through a social science lens within her academic and professional pursuits thus far, such as evaluating and addressing visitor-use management within parks and protected areas broadly. Spanning from Maine to Alaska, these experiences assisted in the progression of her passion to implement proactive, thoughtful, and creative measures regarding environmental protection through not only research initiatives but teaching and service capacities as well.

Specifically, these captivating experiences assisted in the refinement of her primary teaching and research interests, which include: 1) inspiring students to recognize and affirm their passion(s) to help them realize the powerful role they play as impactful stewards and invaluable spirits in society while 2) bridging the realms of academics and research through theoretically and practically understanding the often ethereal yet foundational human-environment connections which occur. Sarah holds degrees ranging from park management and conservation to recreation, park, and tourism administration from North Carolina State University (B.S.), Western Illinois University (M.S.), and Kansas State University (Ph.D.).

## *Bob Lewis*

I was born and raised in Kansas. My favorite childhood activities were bird hunting and fishing. I attended Kansas State and majored in Wildlife Biology, graduating in May 1970. With that beginning it is easy to assume my path forward to a Konza Prairie docent was a direct and obvious one, but that was not the case.

Upon graduation, I did not pursue a job in wildlife conservation, nor anything else. I got married immediately (3 days) and headed to Kent State University to get a M.Ed. degree in Student Services in Higher Education. That degree led me to gainful employment in the Financial Aid Office at Purdue University. During the six years there my responsibilities steadily increased and at the same time I earned an MBA in Finance.

My finance degree enabled me to enter the business world and I worked for a paperboard packaging company for the next 37 years. I started in finance, moved to sales, and eventually ended up in general management.

Those education and work experiences resulted in more moves than I would like to remember: Kansas (Manhattan) to Kansas (Deerfield area) to Ohio (Akron area) to Kansas (Garden City) to Indiana (Indianapolis) to Kansas (Garden City) to Indiana (West Lafayette) to Ohio (Cleveland area) to Massachusetts (Boston area) to Illinois (Chicago area) to Kansas (Lawrence).

We moved to Kansas in 2012 and I went through New Docent Training in 2013. A couple of years later I joined the Konza burn crew. I get enjoyment from both of those activities by just being on the prairie and I learn something new every time I am out there. The excitement and curiosity of the grade school students that visit for a day is fun and inspiring. There is always something that happens on those days that I want to share with my friends and family. A day on the burn crew is very rewarding. First, it is a team effort. Beyond that it requires each individual to be alert, be physically capable, and to be safe. The result enables valuable research to be conducted and the prairie to remain a prairie.

I was an avid racquetball player for almost 40 years. I now play pickleball four or five times a week. I attend all the Kansas State home football games and one or two away games each year. I also own two small parcels of land that I manage for increased wildlife. I have two excellent hunting dogs (a German shorthair pointer and a Labrador retriever) and I continue with my two favorite activities of bird hunting and fishing.

As I read over what I just wrote, I would have to conclude I am back to my roots—in Kansas doing what I liked to do when I was growing up. Lucky me!



In 2006, Bangladesh faced its largest poisonous arsenic contamination of groundwater in the country's history. In the western part of the country where I came from, this contamination became a social and environmental disaster for the entire populace. The underground tube well is the main source of fresh water for the people of Bangladesh. When the contamination outbreak occurred, the government of Bangladesh began a nationwide screening process of tube wells as a part of social awareness to mitigate the problem. Tube wells were monitored for arsenic contamination and marked with either a red color (which indicates arsenic contamination) or green color (which indicates the water is safe to drink). The tube well that was at my home screened a red color. Due to a lack of fresh water from our well, we carried water from our neighbor's house for our daily use. The groundwater contamination problem not only affected my family, but it also created a social crisis in our local society, as well as the whole country. This natural disaster led me to be more inquisitive about groundwater contamination, water scarcity, global warming and its impact on the salinity of the soils, and so forth. This is the reason that I obtained my Bachelor of Science degree from the Department of Soil, Water, and Environment at the University of Dhaka, which is the most reputable university in Bangladesh.

My advisor is Dr. Walter K. Dodds, University Distinguished Professor and the Edwin G. and Lillian J. Brychta Chair in Biology.

Konza Prairie Biological station provides valuable long-term data for studying grassland ecosystems and their response to environmental changes. My research focuses on long-term stream data from 1980 to 2020 at the Kings Creek watershed at KPBS. I found an approximate 50% decline in annual flowing days, likely due to increasing woody vegetation encroachment, and despite an increase in precipitation over time. I am also studying the water chemistry (NO<sub>3</sub>, TP, DOC, SRP, TSS, and VSS) of the Kings Creek and Shane Creek watersheds and comparing those values across bison-grazed or cattle-grazed watersheds and ungrazed watersheds. Grassland streams are sensitive to changes in their watersheds, such as increases in woody vegetation or changes to fire/grazing regimes. My research aims to elucidate how these watershed changes influence streamflow and water chemistry, which can in turn affect downstream water quality and aquatic ecosystems.

Long-term monitoring is crucial for understanding ecosystem trends, identifying shifts in ecological processes, and distinguishing natural variability from human-induced changes. By investigating water chemistry in these watersheds, my research sheds light on how different land management practices, such as bison or cattle grazing, influence water quality in grassland streams. This information is crucial for sustainable land use planning, especially in regions where grazing is common.

My favorite thing about Konza is The vast expanse of untouched prairie, rich in biodiversity, provides a unique and valuable setting for ecological research and conservation efforts. The natural beauty and ecological significance of the grasslands make it a captivating destination for ecological research for me. Also, as a researcher, I value Konza Prairie Biological Station for its unique and valuable long-term ecological data. With continuous research spanning several decades, it offers an exceptional resource to study grassland ecosystem dynamics and responses to environmental changes. The extensive and continuous datasets enable a deep understanding of ecological processes, ecosystem interactions, and the impact of various factors on grassland environments. My least favorite thing is about Konza that I don't like are the ticks that bite during fieldwork.

My dream job is to be an ecological research scientist: As an ecological research scientist, I will be able to work with research institutions, universities, or environmental organizations to conduct in-depth studies on ecosystems.

I'm an outgoing person who loves various outdoor activities so when not working on my research I enjoy fishing, gardening, swimming, hiking, and playing soccer during my free time. Soccer, in particular, holds a special place in my heart, and I find joy in both watching and playing the sport.





I am originally from a small town in northeast Nebraska called Homer. I attended Peru State College in southeast Nebraska, and then moved to Wichita, Kansas, to pursue my Master's degree.

Growing up, my family and I always tried to squeeze in a vacation and a few camping trips every summer. Our vacations were mostly centered around visiting various national parks and landmarks across the U.S., and I always enjoyed fishing, kayaking, and just being immersed in nature during our camping trips. From those vacations and camping trips, I learned to love all the beauty that nature has to offer, and I knew early on that I wanted to pursue a degree in a field of study that would allow me to protect places like the ones I grew up visiting. I have also been fortunate enough to be surrounded by people who love being out in nature just as much as I do, which continues to fuel my passion for conservation and ecology.

I'd have to give credit to my mom for my love of nature and everything biology related. She is a plant lover, so any time we were outside she would teach me about every plant we came across (she still does this any time we visit somewhere new). It was her passion for plants and nature that fueled my passion for the same things at an early age. She also taught me to expand my horizons and learn as much as I can about the things I am passionate about. I never thought I would end up as an entomologist, but because I was taught to expand my horizons, here I am today!

My faculty advisor at Wichita State is Dr. Mary Liz Jameson.

My work focuses on the dung beetle communities associated with bison-grazed, cattle-grazed, and ungrazed pastures, and whether these communities differ in terms of abundance and richness. Dung beetles and livestock have a very close relationship, which carries with it important ecosystem services. Livestock provide dung beetles with an abundance

of dung, and in return, dung beetles recycle the dung back into the ecosystem. The relationship between dung beetles and livestock is important to understand, especially as large grazing mammals are an integral part of many prairie and grassland restoration efforts. According to Scholtz and Twidwell (2022), the Flint Hills tallgrass prairie is one of the few remaining intact grasslands in the world. With my work, I intend to showcase the importance of heterogeneous dung beetle communities in maintaining diverse, high-functioning grassland ecosystems.

My favorite thing about Konza is the fact that, through my research, I get to experience it in all its glory. Before pursuing this research, I had never been to Konza or the Flint Hills tallgrass prairie. Being in a new ecosystem and having the opportunity to conduct research there has been amazing! I love the openness and being able to see for miles, and I find the diversity of the plants and animals to be very interesting; I always see something new every time I am there! I also can't forget to mention the bison; I always look forward to seeing them (especially the calves).

My least favorite things about Konza are the ticks and spiders. Any time my crew and I are out in the field, we find quite a few ticks. My least favorite thing is walking into a ball of baby ticks, and having what looks like hundreds crawling around on my pant legs. I am also not a fan of the spiders. They are interesting to look at from a distance, but not when they are crawling on me!

My dream job would be working as a wildlife area manager. As I stated earlier, I have always wanted to protect the places I grew up loving, and being the manager of a wildlife area is exactly how I would accomplish that. I love work that involves hands-on projects and time in the field. As a wildlife area manager, I would be able to help keep nature beautiful for people who love being out in it just as much as I do.

When I'm not in class or doing my research, I love watching any documentary that has to do with nature, and I especially love traveling! My goal is to someday visit and hike in every national park in the U.S. Glacier National Park and the Grinnell Glacier Trail have been my favorites so far. Right now, my partner and I live about 6 hours away from each other, so we enjoy planning little weekend getaways occasionally to different towns and cities between us. We always go for places that have fun outdoor things to do and good food!

## In Memory

### *Nancy Goulden*



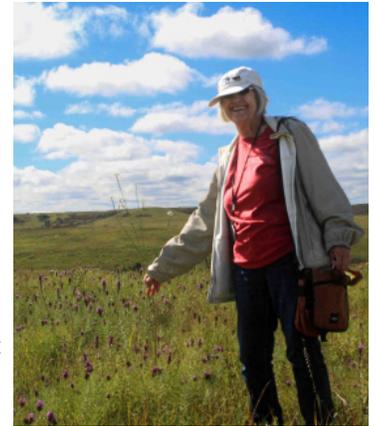
The prairie lost a friend and advocate when Nancy Goulden passed away on May 12, 2023. How appropriate that she chose that date to leave us – it is when the spring prairie is at its absolute most sublime, with new green grass and spring wildflowers both in abundance.

Nancy was a long-time docent (Class of 2001 – which was a pip of a class, Earl Allen, Loren Alexander, Garry Harter, and Mary Sutton were all in there) for the Konza Environmental Education Program, and she took her responsibilities seriously. She was the 2013 Docent of the Year – signifying that she put in more volunteer hours that year than any other docent.

The photo from the 2013 Year-end Awards event where she received her honor shows Nancy with a smile on her face that looks just a tiny bit forced. She's grateful for the honor, there's

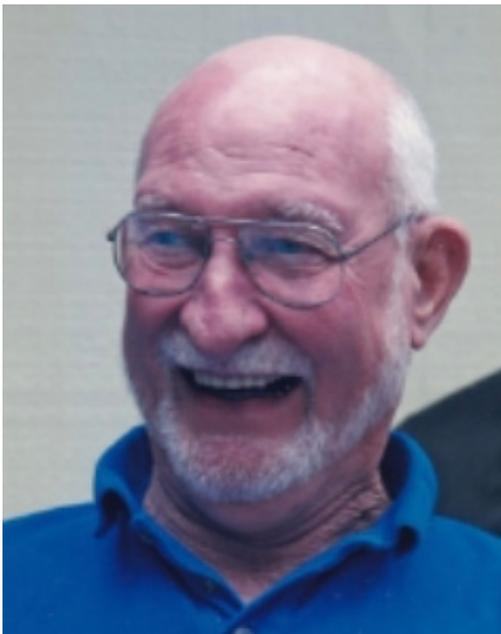
no doubt, but she might think this is all just a little bit silly.

Where Nancy was the happiest was out on the prairie. Every year the docents gather to walk the Godwin Hill trail – the 3rd loop of the KPBS Nature Trail system. On September 12, 2014, we gathered for the hike. I took photos of several of the docents that day and I am forever grateful that I managed to snap a couple of Nancy. This was where and when she was happiest. The smile in those photos is in stark contrast to the one at the awards event. This is a real smile.



Happy trails, Nancy. Thank you for all you did for the prairie, the kids of the Flint Hills, and KEEP.

### *Chuck Bussing*



Dr. Charles (Chuck) Bussing, a long-time Friend of Konza Prairie, KEEP docent, and FOKP board member, passed away April 19, 2023.

Chuck was a graduate of the large docent class of the year 2000. It had 18 graduates that year, and many of them formed long-term connections with Konza Prairie. He joined the Friends of Konza Prairie board of directors in 2011 and served a full six years with the board.

Chuck, along with his wife Sandy, have been strong supporters of the work at Konza Prairie and the continued conservation of the tallgrass prairie. We will miss him.



It's time for the annual Visions of the Flint Hills juried art show and fundraiser for FOKP! We're very happy to continue the partnership with Buttonwood Art Space in Kansas City where the "Visions" show has happened for 15 years. Our juror for 2023 is painter Kim Casebeer (also a Konza Prairie Docent!), our honorary chairs are John and Sarah Blair, and we'll enjoy music at the opening reception from Alice Boyle and Rob Rosenberg, aka "Kaw Creek". The public opening reception and artist awards presentation is Friday, October 6, 5-8pm at Buttonwood Art Space, 3013 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. The show will be up through December 13.

If you can't make it to the main show in Kansas City, don't worry! For the first time, FOKP is working with Downtown Manhattan Inc and 409 Gallery to exhibit and sell artwork in spaces along Poyntz Ave. Work will be on display and available for purchase during the same dates as the "Visions" show in Kansas City. We'll send out more information about this new concurrent exhibition closer to the dates.

Thank you to our amazing sponsors who help make these events possible and who are supporting the great work at Konza Prairie! Sponsors and info for the "Visions" show can be found at:

<https://buttonwoodartspace.com/show/2023-visions-of-the-flint-hills>

### The KPBS Staff:

**Director** John Blair, Ph.D.  
**Assistant Director** Eva Horne, Ph.D.  
**Administrative Asst.** Barb Van Slyke  
**KPBS Project/Site Manager** Patrick O'Neal  
**Director of Education** Jill Haukos  
**Assistant Environmental Educator** Monica Schafer

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>

### The FOKP Executive Board:

**President** Brian McCornack (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)  
**President-elect** Susan Adams (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2024)  
**Treasurer** Noah Busch (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2023)  
**Secretary** Open  
**Historian** Joe Gelroth

### The FOKP board members:

Heather Culwell (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)  
 Nellie Hill (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)  
 Retta Kramer (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2023)  
 Marcia Rozell (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)  
 Mollie Wold (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2023)  
 Jerrod Westfahl (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2023)  
 Kelly Yarbrough (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2023)

### Ex-officio and Honorary members

The Nature Conservancy- Ben Postlethwaith  
 KPBS Director- John Blair  
 Director of Education- Jill Haukos  
 KSU Foundation- Trevor Jueneman  
 Historian- Joe Gelroth  
 Honorary Board Members- Stormy Kennedy and Valerie Wright

Friends of Konza Prairie  
Kansas State University  
Division of Biology,  
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Manhattan, KS 66506-4901  
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#308



#### MISSION

Konza Prairie Biological Station (KPBS) is a native tallgrass prairie preserve owned by The Nature Conservancy and Kansas State University and operated as a research station by the Division of Biology. The Friends of Konza Prairie (FOKP) promotes the interests of KPBS as they pertain to its mission of research, education and conservation.

## FOKP Members

This list designates **NEW** and **RENEWING** members who have joined since the last newsletter.

**QUESTIONS REGARDING MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE SENT TO [friendsofkonza@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofkonza@gmail.com)**

#### STUDENT

Linah Alkotami  
Cameron Allen  
Nicholas Detter  
Rebecca Detter  
Heather Forster  
Brian & Yvonne Hazlett  
Mary Hellmer  
Thomas Misilo  
Steven Moser  
Landon Ochsner  
Abby Pace  
Sidhaarth Radhakrishnan  
Monica Schwan  
Sara Snell  
Jason Snell  
Dexter White

#### LITTLE BLUESTEM— INDIVIDUAL

Theresa Albrecht  
Jennifer Anderson  
Victoria Appelhans  
Belinda Baber  
Scott & Jill Bean  
Mark Boatwright  
Kathleen Bower  
Nova Clarke  
Katherine Colburn  
Dave Colburn & Sandra Nelson  
Heather Culwell  
Miriam Edelman  
Sarah Garlich  
Dan Harden  
Steve Henry  
Ann Hyde  
Marc Johnson  
Susan Johnson  
Douglas May  
Laura Miller

Yvonne Norby  
Leela Noronha  
Christi Oakley  
Laura Ransom  
Pat Ripper  
Barbara L. Roberts  
Paul Rosell  
Lynn Schmidt  
Rhonda & Michael Sweeney  
Carole Wilds

#### LITTLE BLUESTEM—FAMILY

Cheryl & Frank Arthur  
The Bird Family  
John Blocher & Kui Yang  
Roger & Shelley Braden  
Grace Baptist Church  
Jane & Randall Cobb  
Margaret Conrow  
Ben & Maris Deaver  
Herb Dillon  
Michael Donnelly & Jackie Macdonald  
Edwin & Casee Eisele  
Amy Ellis  
David & Connie Farmer  
Jack & Peggy Flouer  
Valerie & Doug Hawkins  
Brad & Cindy Horchem  
Mackenzie Hutchison  
Harriette Janke  
Rick & Barbara Johnson  
Tim & Sharon Keane  
Stormy & George Kennedy  
Julie & Ronald Kocienski  
Terri & Mike McQueen  
Louis & Amy Meng  
Danielle Merrick  
Ron & Stephanie Olsen  
The Larry O'Neill Family  
Lindsay Pennock

Brent & Jody Price  
William & Marilyn Rishel  
Jamie & Alison Rogers  
The Rowell Family  
Don & Judi Schultz  
Penny Senften  
Hazen & Dahnika Short  
John Stipetich  
Scott Stuckey  
Kathy & Dan Swenson

#### BIG BLUESTEM

Bayer Construction Co., Inc.  
Chris & Craig Beardsley  
Richard Boydston  
Michael & Barbara Finnegan  
Amanda P Gaulke  
Mark & Ann Knackendoffel  
Nancy & Rick Knorp  
David Mayer  
Monte & Susan Metzger  
Gary Mignano  
Vicki Mikulecky  
Stacia Peterson  
Monica Rice  
Dennis & Monika Riordan  
Christen Skaer & Luke Carter  
William Tsutsui  
Tom & Barb Van Slyke  
Larry Weaver & Gabrielle Thompson

#### FLINT HILLS

June & Gary Caler  
Vicki Clegg & Bert Biles  
Lowell & Stacy Kohlmeier  
John & Retta Kramer  
Loren & Jaime Minnich  
Georgina R. Schwartz  
Jay Wight

#### PRAIRIE CHICKEN

Brian Biles  
Jack & Jan Carlson  
Clay Harvey & Patty McGivern  
Bruce & Lisa Lowrie  
Christopher & Kristin Miller

#### BISON

Doris & Bill Burnett

#### TALL GRASS

Marlis Dagg  
Allan Foster & Mary Galligan  
Phil Howe  
Jim Koelliker  
Sue Maes & Dennis Hemmendinger

#### COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS

Chancie Adams  
Alicia Baker  
Ethan Ball-Yankey  
Morris Betzold  
Nicolas Bieber  
Ryan Blizard  
Jason Bond  
Megan Burnette  
Ashley Buss  
Harley Carlson  
Charles Carlson  
Nicolas Carmello  
Jason Carmichael  
Juan Ceja  
Ruqi Chen  
Tracy Clem  
Michelle Cox  
Mark Crabtree  
Gerry Dickinson  
Jacie Dodge  
McKenzie Elliott  
Felicia Fields

Curt Frazell  
Joann Garascia  
Kelsey Garnett  
Waldemar Gonzalez Oliver  
Kyle Gordon  
Braylon Harvey  
Carney Heim  
Bradley Hemel  
Joel Holden  
Tanya Jacobucci  
Jaz January  
Cearra Jones  
Bailey Jones  
Barrett & Landon Keleher  
Carolyn Klein  
Michelle Krempel  
Lauren Laubsch-Williams  
Cody Lawrence  
Kendra Lister  
Michael Machell  
Gueddiel Marquez  
Tyler Mather  
David Mattson  
Thomas Mcalister  
Tiffany McCarty  
Zacharia Mcdonald  
Jesse Mcdonald  
Landon McDonald  
Timbria McKendrick  
Ben Meyer  
Logan Miner  
Phillip Minner  
Ryan Mitchell  
Heather Moore  
Alexa Moreno  
Jonathan Morris  
Robert & Victoria Noller  
Christopher Phelps  
Jeffrey Piper  
Leah Rempel  
Roman Rojas

Alejandra Salas  
Gabriel Scerbak  
Elizabeth Skrivanek  
Benjamin Smith  
Marc Smith  
Keidratt Smith  
Marie Smith  
Aaliyah Smith Pinkett  
Miguela Snider  
Andruw Soliz  
Derek Sramek  
Emily Stockholm  
Nicole Tanner  
Richard Taylor  
Russell Thiel  
Barbara Tozer  
Martin Vazquez  
Stephanie Velasquez  
Jordyn Wedl  
Derrick Wilcox