

FALL Annual Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 29th, 2024 4 pm

Join us for the FOKP Annual Meeting, Bison BBQ & Potluck, and Bison-Viewing Tour

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Annual Meeting – Sept 29th at 4pm in the Stone Barn
- Bison BBQ and Potluck at 5pm
- RSVP for burgers by Sept 22nd - email Ryan at rklataske@gmail.com
- Bison Tours at 6pm

Friends of Konza Prairie (FOKP) is excited to invite all members to our annual general meeting followed by a bison BBQ and potluck dinner, and a guided bison-viewing tour on Sunday, September 29th. This much-anticipated event is a highlight of our year, offering members a unique opportunity to connect, learn, and experience the beauty of the Konza Prairie firsthand. If you're not yet a member but want to attend this special event, join FOKP at <https://keep.konza.k-state.edu/fokp/>. Your contribution is tax-deductible and helps introduce local children to the tallgrass prairie.

The annual meeting will begin at 4pm in the historic Stone Barn, offering an opportunity to hear updates on FOKP, the Konza Prairie Biological Station, and the Konza Environmental Education Program. We'll also meet the newest docents and the latest Konza Rock Stars.

After the meeting, we'll gather at 5pm for a potluck dinner featuring delicious bison burgers from Konza Prairie. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a meal with fellow members, board members, and staff, and to make new friends who share a similar appreciation for the tallgrass prairie. We encourage everyone to bring a dish to share and ask that you RSVP for burgers. Please email FOKP board member Ryan Klataske at rklataske@gmail.com by September 22nd.



The evening will conclude with guided bus tours of Konza Prairie starting at 6 PM. These tours will take you to areas seldom seen by the public, offering breathtaking views and a chance to observe bison in their natural habitat. You'll learn about the ongoing research and management efforts that help preserve this critical ecosystem, as well as the unique ecology of the tallgrass prairie. We plan to offer two different tour lengths, both with opportunities to view bison. A shorter bus tour (approximately one hour) will be available and, for those looking to soak in the prairie's beauty, a longer option will be offered, possibly (given weather and circumstances) culminating in a sunset view from atop a hill on Konza Prairie.

If you require any special accommodations, including wheelchair accessible transportation, please let us know as soon as possible.

FRIENDS OF
KONZA PRAIRIE

Research

Education

Conservation

Autumn 2024



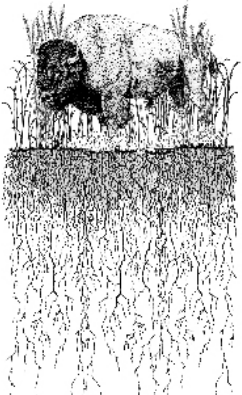
INSIDE

- Page 2 - KPBS Director's Report
FOKP President's Report
- Page 3 - From the Stone House
- Page 4 - This is Your FOKP Board
- Page 5 - Docent Spotlight
- Page 6 - Research Student
- Page 7 - Visions of the Flint Hills
- Page 8 - Wildflower Walk
- Page 9 - Happy Hour

Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, September 29,
4pm FOKP Annual Meeting
5pm Bison BBQ
6pm Bison Tour
Meet at the Stone Barn on Konza Prairie
- Friday, October 4, 5pm: Visions of the Flint Hills at
Buttonwood Art Studio in Kansas City, MO

& Bluestem



Bison



KPBS Director's Report John Blair

You likely know that Konza Prairie's mission includes research, education, and conservation. However, we don't often explicitly mention the 'broader impacts' of activities at the station. So, what are broader impacts? Broader impacts refer to positive outcomes of research beyond specific scientific goals. In the context of a field station, broader impact refers to the potential of activities at the station to benefit society and contribute to positive societal outcomes. Examples include increasing scientific literacy and public awareness, providing new education and training opportunities, enhancing diversity and participation of underrepresented groups, communicating with agencies and land managers, and translating research findings into practical solutions. Researchers, educators, and staff at KPBS contribute to broader impacts in many ways. Here are just a few examples from 2024.

KPBS and TNC staff participated in a workshop to enhance public outreach and education at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. We hosted the Kansas Geological Survey Field Conference aimed at educating policymakers about natural resources issues in Kansas, and we hosted the annual Konza Prairie LTER researcher's meeting, which included representatives from agencies and organizations focused on grassland conservation. We hosted an NRCS Rangeland Soil Health training course for scientists from around the nation, and we provided a field day for the Society for Rangeland Management's Youth Camp. We provided research and management-oriented tours for Kansas for Conservation, the National Association of Conservation Districts, Leadership Kansas, and other groups.

In addition to the educational activities and the summer Teachers Training workshop led by Jill Haukos, KPBS hosted an art & science workshop (Camp Sketchapod) for entomology students from around the country and provided a field experience for the University of Colorado Art and Environment Field School. We also supported a week-long field course on methods in geology and subsurface hydrology and hosted interns from Environment for the Americas who monitored monarch butterflies in the region. This fall, we will host an international training workshop on belowground plant traits.

KPBS researchers participated in an Earth Day screening of 'Hot Times in the Heartland' and a panel discussion on climate change impacts in Kansas. We hosted a visit and tour for Native American Elders and presenters at the Flint Hills Wisdom Keepers gathering, and we shared information with visiting conservationists from Inner Mongolia. KPBS researchers and educators gave presentations at the Symphony in the Flint Hills event on grassland bird conservation, the importance of prescribed burning, and the role of water in prairies. This fall, KPBS research and conservation activities will be featured prominently at the 2024 Natural Areas Conference to be held in Manhattan, October 7-10. The theme of this meeting is 'Where Science Meets Stewardship' and it will provide an opportunity to share information with land managers from around the nation.

This list is not comprehensive, but I hope it gives you a sense of the many ways KPBS strives to raise public awareness and promote grassland conservation. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Fall FOKP meeting, and thank you for supporting our research, education, conservation, and 'broader impact' activities!

FOKP President Nellie Hill-Sullins



The Annual Meeting & Bison Tour is coming up, which also means we near the end of another year of Friends of Konza Prairie events and milestones. These successes are only possible because of the commitment of FOKP members like you, our board members, and all the prairie people who continue to support the Konza Prairie by engaging with our organization.

A recap of just a few of the highlights of the last year:

We designed and introduced a new FOKP logo that captures the essence of a vibrant sunset on the Konza Prairie, featuring layers of soil and silhouette of big bluestem.

Our Soup & Song event successfully transitioned from the Konza Stone Barn to the Ashland Community Center (due to snow) where we enjoyed songs of the prairie and more soups that we had tables for. It was an event filled with joy, community and music.

The annual Wildflower Walk had the highest attendance of any previous event on record. We were thrilled to welcome so many folks to enjoy a summer evening learning about plants on the prairie. And there are many more achievements.

As we look ahead to the next year, I hope we can continue to grow our membership so more people can enjoy these special events with us while supporting the mission of research, education, conservation, and outreach of Konza Prairie. Let's continue to work on this together by inviting others to become members, engaging with our social media pages, or volunteering during our events. Thank you for your unwavering, vital dedication. I look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting in September.



How Old is The Prairie?

We host a lot of visitors to the prairie and when they arrive, they come armed with a busload of questions. I've heard most of the questions before, but occasionally there will be a new question that will cause me to stop and think for a minute or two. Such was the case recently when a teacher asked me, "How old is the prairie?"

The answer: about 8,000 years old, because that's when it became dry enough to kick out the trees.

Prairie systems require an area to be relatively warm and dry – dry enough to keep out the trees and shrubs that would ordinarily out-compete the grasses for water and sunlight. Prior to that - about 10,000 – 14,000 years ago - we had far different conditions in this area consisting of cool and moist weather that supported first a spruce forest and then a hardwood forest of oaks, elms, ash, and birch trees.

The next question as a follow-up was: "How old are the prairie plants?"

The answer: we don't have a clue.

Unlike trees with their very convenient tree rings, the herbaceous (soft, without bark) plants of the prairie don't have markers that indicate their age. BUT, we do know a couple of things –

- 1) Prairie plants COULD be VERY OLD – hundreds of years old. We just don't know...?
- 2) Most of the plants of the prairie are perennials, as opposed to annuals, who begin their life cycles every year from seeds.
- 3) We estimate that perennials make up about 80% of the plants of the prairie.
- 4) Perennials come back year after year from underground root and stem storage structures. These underground storage structures are another important part of the subterranean composition of the prairie.
- 5) The abundance of species that are apparent (blooming) during any given year changes from year to year, even though the plants haven't left. Some plants don't bloom every year for a variety of reasons. Whether a plant blooms, or not usually comes down to the differences in the timing of rainfall from one year to the next.

The prairie is amazingly subtle but still very complex, it's one of the things that I find the most fascinating about this ecosystem. The plants that bloom from one year to the next can be completely different, even though they haven't moved or changed. What has changed is the timing of the precipitation from year to year. Any one of those perennial prairie plants could well be several hundred years old, easily comparable to the age of the largest tree in the area.

I'll see you out on the prairie - Jill



This is your Friends of Konza Prairie Board

Heather Culwell



Heather Culwell is the Treasurer for the Friends of Konza Prairie. As part of our new series "This is your FOKP Board" - we highlight Heather and find out what motivated her to join the board:

What/who initially connected you to Konza Prairie?

I first found Konza Prairie while I was attending KSU as an undergrad. I grew up in St. Francis, KS, where there's a lot more peace and solitude. I was so overwhelmed when I moved to Manhattan. Konza Prairie served as an escape from the hustle and bustle of "city life".

What is your favorite part of Konza Prairie?

My favorite part of Konza Prairie is the view from the top of the big staircase. It's breathtaking! The vast, rolling hills have an infinite amount of flora and fauna. The colors vary throughout the day and the year. You never see the same view twice! I always try to imagine what it would look or feel like traveling across the prairie in a covered wagon. You never know what will pop up over the next hill.

What motivated you to join the board?

I wanted to be a part of the work that is done at the Konza Prairie. It's deeply satisfying that my small role on the board helps to support the research and education of children and adults from all over the world.

What has been your favorite part of being on the FOKP board?

My favorite part of being on the board is the behind the scenes access and additional knowledge of the site. I have learned so much! Visiting the big stone barn and taking the bison tour each year at our annual meeting are big perks. I've also met so many people from different walks of life who share in the love of the prairie.

What would you like to see in the future of FOKP?

I would like to see FOKP continue to grow in membership and spread the word of the research that takes place at the Konza Prairie Biological Station. As members transition to the next phases of their lives and move on from the community, they'll take their memories and experiences of the prairie with them to spread far and wide. I'd like to encourage everyone to join us at our annual members-only meeting in September to learn about the research taking place to share with friends and family.

Follow Friends of Konza Prairie



www.facebook.com/FriendsofKonzaPrairie



www.instagram.com/friends_of_konza_prairie

ANNOUNCEMENT

Introducing and voting on new FOKP Board Members at the Annual FOKP Meeting on September 29th.

Jim Koelliker

What motivated you to become a Konza Prairie Docent?

After having a lifelong passion for and interest in water and the environment as a K-State faculty member, along with the privilege of being invited to work with the great researchers and staff as part of the LTER for thirty years, it was easy for me to move into being a volunteer as a docent. I became a docent by “osmosis” because it was easy to make the transition. Also, I knew that KEEP, like the KNZ LTER, was the best one in the entire country and I wanted to be part of it as a volunteer. Also, I love the natural beauty of the prairie, and I hope I am now encouraging young people to find that beauty and the importance of learning about the natural environment in their lives.

What has been the best part of being a volunteer at Konza Prairie?

First, it gives me another reason to go to the prairie. Getting to volunteer and interact with the dedicated docents and to watch them excite all the students who come to learn about the prairie is very rewarding.

What brings you the most joy in your life?

At my age, just being healthy and active is a great daily joy. It gives me much pleasure to share my time by volunteering in several areas of the community. And now my partner and I are enjoying traveling often. My greatest joy, however, is my family as I watch them and share in their growth and success in their lives.

What are some of your hobbies and interests?

Birdwatching, including leading the annual Birdathon for the Northern Flint Hills Audubon Society, serving as a certified volunteer income tax instructor and preparer, working as a Harvesters food distribution volunteer for three of the monthly distributions in Manhattan, serving as Crisis Center advisory board president, dabbling at gardening, and watching my grandchildren’s sports and performance events.



1. Where are you from?

I'm from northeast Minnesota's Iron Range, a hilly, forested region that once prospered economically with the iron mining industry but is less well-off today. It's a region of lakes, both natural and born of open pit mines that have filled with water over time, along with trails for skiing, hiking, and four-wheeling, and the Boundary Waters, a wilderness canoeing and camping area that draws people from far and wide.

2. What inspired you to enter this field of study?

I have always been interested in nature, and my parents fostered this interest from a young age. They are passionate about ecology, so they not only took me outside a lot, but told me the names of different plants and animals and their roles in the ecosystem. I went to Carleton College in southern Minnesota and was introduced to the prairie there, and pursued my interest further through summer jobs during college. I fell in love with the prairie, particularly its plant communities, and kept following my passion after graduating through a fellowship with The Nature Conservancy in Nebraska. There, I received hands-on experience with research, land management, and science communication, and continued learning about the broader conservation landscape. I also started thinking more about insects and the importance of their interactions with plants, like pollination.

3. Was there someone in your life who shared your love of nature or influenced you?

My parents! I also have been lucky enough to have good supervisors during my jobs and internships through the years, like Kally Worm at the Cedar Creek LTER in Minnesota, Chris Helzer and Marissa Ahlering with The Nature Conservancy, and Stuart Wagenius with the Chicago Botanic Garden, who all fostered my interests in prairie ecology and research.

4. Who is your faculty advisor at K-State?

Zak Ratajczak, and I'm co-advised by another K-State alum, Ellen Welti, who is with the Smithsonian Institution.

5. What is your research topic at Konza and how does it fit into the broader science picture?

I'm studying how grazing management impacts pollinator habitat in prairies. At Konza, I'm investigating what foraging habitat looks like for pollinators, as well as nesting habitat for ground-nesting bees. I'm collecting data in cattle-grazed, bison-grazed, and ungrazed sites that are annually burned, to best match local burning practices in the Flint Hills, and have also collected similar data in the shortgrass prairie of northern Montana. Prairie wildflowers depend on pollinators for reproduction, and through my project I hope to identify grazing practices that support diverse, healthy pollinator communities in prairie.

6. What is your favorite thing about Konza?

My favorite thing about Konza is probably the diverse plant and insect communities it's home to! There are new things flowering and flying around every week in the summer, it seems like. And the various lizard species are also a highlight!

7. What is your least favorite thing about Konza?

My least favorite thing is how it's the source of SO MUCH of the published work on prairie ecology. I think one site can only tell us so much about the ways an entire ecosystem functions, and I wish there was more of an impetus for grad students (and beyond) to do research at and publish work from a variety of other prairie sites as well.

8. What would be your dream job?

It seemed clearer before I started grad school and got to keep seeing different options and possible paths! I think something at the intersection of land management and research (maybe with an NGO or state/federal agency) would be a good fit for me, and I also value science communication and hope to be able to interweave that with whatever I end up doing.

9. What do you like to do when you're not in class or doing your research?

I like taking walks, reading, listening to podcasts, keeping up with friends and family, and traveling when I get the chance to!



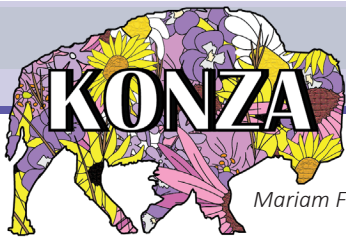


It's time for the annual Visions of the Flint Hills juried art show and fundraiser for Friends of Konza Prairie! We're very happy to continue the partnership with Buttonwood Art Space in Kansas City where the "Visions" show has happened for more than 15 years. Our juror for 2024 is prairie artist Susan Rose, our honorary chairs are Bill and JoAnn Zahner, and we'll enjoy music from David Keats at the opening reception.

The public opening reception and artist awards presentation is Friday, October 4, 5pm - 8pm at Buttonwood Art Space, 3013 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. The show will be up through December 11.

If you can't make it to the main show in Kansas City, don't worry! FOKP is working with Downtown Manhattan Inc and 409 Gallery to exhibit and sell artwork. Work will be on display and available for purchase during the same dates as the "Visions" show in Kansas City. 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 on the Buttonwood Art Space website at:

<https://buttonwoodartspace.com/show/2024-visions-of-the-flint-hills>



Wildflower Walk Report

Mariam Fernandez

What a spectacular year for wildflowers!

On Sunday, June 2nd, we enjoyed a beautiful early summer evening on the prairie. The short prairie grass made the wildflowers shine. Butterfly milkweed, catclaw sensitive briar, and purple coneflowers were the stars of the show, along with a diverse variety of other prairie plants. The atmosphere was exciting with almost 500 visitors who all showed up to experience and support the Konza Prairie. Over 20 trained guides pointed out plants and answered questions while leading us through the 1.5 mile Butterfly Hill trail, which is not often open to the public. What a treat!

We tried something new this year to increase the fun of searching for wildflowers. We created the Konza Prairie Wildflower Walk 2024 Project in the free iNaturalist phone app. If you want to view the observations from the weekend, go to www.inaturalist.org/projects/konza-prairie-wildflower-walk-2024

Friends of Konza Prairie also provided merchandise for sale. This year, Nellie Hill-Sullins' K-State Agriculture Communications class developed Wildflower Walk themed t-shirts and stickers that were sold at the event. FOKP also sold Mike Haddock's *Wildflowers and Grasses of Kansas: A Field Guide, Revised and Expanded Edition*. All proceeds benefited Friends of Konza Prairie.

We had an amazing volunteer team to run the walk with record-breaking crowds. Thank you to Jim Koelliker, Patrick Russell, Jeff Petersen, Bob Lewis, Dave Hodgson, Joe Gelroth, Dan Higgins, Patrick O'Neal, Janette Gelroth, Nellie Hill-Sullins, Sarah Jackson, Ryan Klataske, Heather Culwell, Mollie Wold, Ken Wold, Mike Haddock, Susan Kamphaus, Andrew Meng, Matthew Meng, Mary Hildreth, Susie Higgins, Grace Higgins, Monica Shaffer, Heather McCornack, Louis Meng, Janette Gelroth, Amy Meng, Jill Haukos, Buz Bruzina, Brian McCornack, Retta Kramer, Mike Haddock, Ken Stafford, Earl Allen, Garry Carter, Don Garwood, Kip Lee, Jeff Taylor, Christy O'Neal, Deb Sumerour, Darren Gunderson, Shelly Gunderson, Miriam Edelman, Karen Hummel, Jeff Petersen, Terry Olson and John Blair. THANK YOU!

The Wildflower Walk was free to all Friends of Konza Prairie members as a special thank you to our members for their support. We hope to see you next year!



A Joyous Gathering

The inaugural Prairie People Happy Hour, hosted by Friends of Konza Prairie (FOKP) at Manhattan Brewing Company on May 30th, was a resounding success, bringing together a vibrant community of prairie enthusiasts. The brewery was open to the public and packed with supporters, all sharing an appreciation for the Konza Prairie, the Flint Hills, local food, and live music.

The atmosphere was electric! Attendees were greeted with warm and soulful country tunes from Kansan musician Ryan Klassen, whose music set the perfect backdrop for the evening. The lively conversations, laughter, and clinking of glasses filled the brewery as people came together to enjoy an atmosphere of community and camaraderie, and to celebrate their shared interest in this unique landscape.

FOKP board member and happy hour organizer, Ryan Klataske, kicked off the evening with a heartfelt welcome, emphasizing the importance of building a strong community of prairie enthusiasts and encouraging the public to support FOKP and its educational efforts, which help to introduce children to our tallgrass prairie ecosystem. He expressed the organization's excitement to host events like this, where people can connect and share their passion for the Flint Hills and tallgrass prairie. John Blair, Director of the Konza Prairie Biological Station, followed with a brief greeting to the crowd, highlighting the station's ongoing initiatives and the critical role that community support plays in its success.

As live music filled the room, Piccalilli Farm provided delicious food, including empanadas with local prairie-friendly beef, adding to the overall sense of community and fulfillment. Attendees had the opportunity to purchase new merchandise, including popular bison T-shirts, and the happy hour provided a chance to raise awareness of FOKP's mission and future events, including the highly attended Wildflower Walk the upcoming weekend.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive. Many expressed their desire for more happy hours in the future, praising the evening's energy, a collection of friendly folks, and the sense of camaraderie that came from a brewery full of prairie enthusiasts.

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 Schaffer

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 Nellie Hill-Sullins (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)

Treasurer Heather Culwell (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)

Secretary Mike Haddock (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2026)

Historian Joe Gelroth

The FOKP board members:

Susan Adams (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2024)

Brian McCornack (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)

Mollie Wold (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2025)

Sarah Jackson (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2026)

Ryan Klataske (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2026)

Bob Lewis (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2026)

Amy Meng (3-yr term expiring Dec. 2026)

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,
116 Ackert Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-4901
785-587-0441
#308

FRIENDS OF
KONZA PRAIRIE



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

Student

Nicholas Bethards
Kirsten Conard
Mary Lynn Fitzpatrick
Heather Forster
Rishi Govind
Izzy Haake
Brian & Yvonne Hazlett
Mary K. Hellmer
Kristen Hobbs
Layla Hood
Grace Lansdell
Katherine Lundy
Landon Ochsner
Jamie Parrott
Natalie Pegg
Aleah Querns
Evelyn Roth
Riley Sanford
Ethan Schraad
Nathan Stewart
Savannah Stewart
Mary Ware

Ron Fowles & Barbara Walter
Deborah Gabrion
Camille Ginsburg
Kelly Ingalsbe
Julie Johnson
Traci Jurgensen
Lisa Kane
Lynn Knight
Johnathan Krebs
Cassidy Lathrom
Ryan Otto & Anuja Madan
Patricia Payne DMV
Cody Rebholz
Dan & Brenda Richards
Carrie Riordan
Kathy Schaefer
Caroline Seals
Tracy Sender
Jennifer Smith
Gina Taylor
Rhonda Thornburrow
Ryan Wilson
Pat Zimmerman

Amy Ellis
Chris & Sarah Elsey
Erik Elving
David & Connie Farmer
Ann Feyerharm
Trent & Nikki Flagler
Marie & James Freeman
Greg & Maura Gathers
Jennifer Griffin
Richard & Mary Hammel
Dan & Carolyn Harden
Ken Haughney
Cole & Sarah Hawver
Dennis & Karla Hitz
Mackenzie Hutchison
Valerie Ireland
Harriette Janke
Roxy & Scott Johanning
Amanda Johnson
Clay Jones & Laura Borken-
hagen
Carol Kennedy
Sarah Knorp
Brad & Joyce Kramer
Dongoh Lee
Laura Lent
Deanna & Ryan Likes
Shay & Kim Logan
Karen Luchinsky
Tim May
Laurie McCallister
Danielle Merrick
Yvonne Norby
Ron & Stephanie Olsen
The Larry O'Neill Family
Jessica Painter
Lindsay Penneck
Brian Praeger & Mary Rooney
Zakary Ratajczak & Vera
Smirnova
David & Judy Regehr

Joseph & Laura Rix
Jamie & Alison Rogers
LaVetta Rolfs & Verne Brien
Leslie & Daryl Rutschmann
Susan Sanders
David & Ann Schmitt
Trent & Nikki Flagler
Don & Judi Schultz
Rich & Penny Senften
Hazen & Dahnika Short
Christen Skaer & Luke Carter
Kent Smith
John Stipetch
David & Alicia Stott
Scott Stuckey
Richard & Sarah Swain
Kathy & Dan Swenson
William Tsutsui
Justin Visser
Rob Voelker & Kate Dove
Andrew Walker
Larry Weaver & Gabrielle
Thompson
Tom & Ronnie Whalen
Kathy & Tony Wichmann
Casey Williams
Ron & Chris Wilson
Jo Ann Zahner

Big Bluestem

Mary P. Barkley
Kevin Cunningham
Dan & Latane Donelin
Casee Eisele
Luke & Jennifer Higgins
Robert Martin
Vicki and Bob Mikulecky
Terry & Mike Olson
Frank Padula
Dennis & Monika Riordan
Alesia Roccia
Tom & Barb Van Slyke

Andrew Weidmann & Allison
Louthan
David Wheaton

Flint Hills

John Ameal
Shawna Bronson
Donna M. Callaghan
Vicki Clegg & Bert Biles
Linda & Larry French
Lowell & Stacy Kohlmeier
John & Retta Kramer
Loren & Jaime Minnich
Georgina R. Schwartz
Yiran Zhu & Jennifer Ifft

Prairie Chicken

Frank & Cheryl Arthur
Jack & Jan Carlson
Laurie Hanson & Kim Dayton
Clay Harvey & Patty McGivern
Mark & Ann Knackendoffel
Bruce & Lia Lowrie
Steve Smith & Alison Mc-
Cullough
Steven Unterman

Bison

Bill & Doris Baack
John & Judy Havens
Brian & Heather McCornack

Tall Grass

Allan Foster & Mary Galligan
Sue Maes & Dennis Hem-
mendinger

Community Memberships

Sara Mercedes Abraham
Kaleb Antonucci
Lindsey Bender

Porter Blanton
Grant Boesen
Jeanetta Brownlee
Michael Cantrell
Jennifer Cofield
Sara Ducker
Jessica Dwyer
Jesus Flores
Aaron Frey
Marcus Gray
Tiara Haywood
Gregory Helms
Crystal Ivey
Morgan Johnson
June Johnson
Helen Kraft
Emily Kyle
Gabe Leavitt
Bethany Leong
Raven Little
Gabriela Lopez Martinez
Josue Luna
Michael Major
Triston McCutchen
Daniella Nahrendorf
Steven Parks
Julie Patrick
Derrick Radigan
Stacy Sancho
Giovanny Santiago Ayala
Cindy Southern
Steven Standing
Rachel Terpstra
Kaylea Terry
Shawn Thiele
Hillery Walmsley
James Williams
Vonzell Williams
Adriana Zavala-Figueroa
Pengcheng Zheng