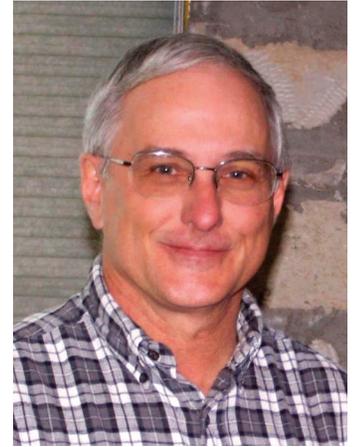


FOKP President
Joe Gelroth



Please Help Spread this Message:
Konza Prairie is Not a Park

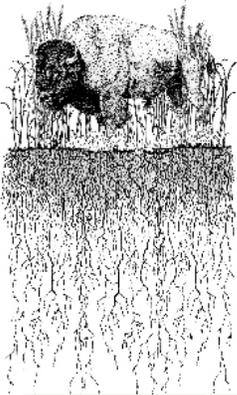
Thousands of visitors walk, hike, or run the Konza Prairie Nature Trail System every year, and their numbers have increased significantly over the past two years. These visitors have enjoyed experiencing that portion of the Konza Prairie Biological Station that is open to the public. As members of the Friends of Konza Prairie, you are no doubt pleased they leave with a better knowledge and appreciation of the uniqueness of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem. However, as noted in previous *Bison & Bluestem* newsletters, a downside to the increasing numbers of Nature Trail users is the increase in the number of site rule violations. That increase has prompted the Konza Prairie Biological Station to consider closing the Nature Trail to weekend visitors. Your help is needed to spread the word that the Konza Prairie Nature Trail System is not a public park. The land is privately owned by The Nature Conservancy, leased by Kansas State University's Division of Biology, and operated as a biological research station. Visitors are expected to adhere to the site rules to ensure that the trails remain open.

The majority of Konza Prairie Nature Trail users do read and observe the site rules and practice appropriate outdoor ethical behavior. The site usage rules are:

- The trails are for hiking only. They are not wheelchair or stroller friendly.
- No smoking or open flames allowed.
- No dogs, horses, or other pets.
- No bicycles or motorcycles.
- No camping or overnight parking.
- Take only photos. Do not collect or remove flowers, rocks, feathers, or other materials.
- Remain on designated trails and roads at all times.
- Pack it in, pack it out. Trash cans and picnic areas are not available along on the trail.

Unfortunately, some rule-ignoring visitors have vandalized structures, stolen or damaged signs, smoked, littered, disturbed scientific research sites, played in the creek, and strayed far from the designated trails. Recently, a group of dedicated docents walked the Nature Trail and cleaned up discarded cigarette butts, plastic bottles, waste paper, and plastic picnic utensils.

KPBS & KEEP have taken several measures to ensure rule compliance. The Konza Trail Guides program, in which docents walk the trails on their own time in the hope that their presence peacefully reminds visitors that Konza Prairie is serious about maintaining the integrity of the site, has been enacted. Informational material has been posted at the trailhead kiosk which redirects people with pets to nearby parks that allow pets. A number of "Research Site – Do Not Enter" signs have been installed to discourage users from departing from the trail. Portable toilets have been placed at two locations along the trail because the composting toilets were overwhelmed. It is hoped that these efforts will reduce the number of incidents of rules violations. Your assistance can also be of value. Please help spread the word that visitors to the Konza Prairie Nature Trails must adhere to the site rules to ensure that the trails remain open to the public. Thank you.



Research

Education

Conservation

Wildflower Walk - June 12th

See page 8 for more information





KPBS Director Dr. John Briggs

Dear members of
the Friends of Konza
Prairie,

It is springtime so it is customary for me to complain about the weather and how it is impacting the burning on KPBS. So here it comes! Can you say windy and dry? Most years, it is too wet to conduct our burns, but not this year. This year the high winds have grounded our burn crews. For those folks who live in the area, you are well aware of the large number of wildfires that have occurred this year. Our rural volunteer fire departments have responded to a record number of fires this spring. The high winds, and, of course, the large amount of dry fuels, have contributed to the increase.

In late March 2016, a wildfire raged across rural areas of SW Kansas and NW Oklahoma. Local authorities and media outlets called it the largest grass fire in Kansas history. The Anderson Creek fire started in northern Oklahoma on March 22 and proceeded to burn more than 620 square miles (1600 square kilometers) of prairie and cattle grazing land. No human deaths have been reported, though 600 cattle were killed by the fires. At least 16 homes and 25 structures were lost, as were countless miles of fencing. As you might guessed, I have been contacted by many individuals asking me about this fire, and also questioned why we are setting fires on Konza and if I was worried one might escape and cause damage like this fire. I respond that I am always worried about our fires and their impact; not only locally if they get away, but also on the air quality in the region.

I worry about the safety of our fire crew and the long-term health impact of those who are exposed to the heat and smoke of the fires year after year. It is a very stressful time of the year for me. I explain to them our safety procedures, our customized fire trucks/trailers, the combined thousands of hours of experience our fire crew members have under their belts, and our relationship with local fire departments and emergency management agencies. I also go over our fire training program and the training we get in first aid, CPR and the use of automated external defibrillators.

However, I also let them know why we (and others in the area) need to burn tallgrass prairie. As you might have guessed, I talk a lot about how the tallgrass prairie is fire-



photo by Barb Van Slyke

derived and needs to be maintained by frequent fire. I also mention how important the cattle industry is to the state economy. I let them know how cattle, along with fire, can be used as conservation agents in this endangered ecosystem. Yes, cattle! Bison are more charismatic but cattle grazing is very important in this area and when managed properly (like they are in most of the Flint Hills), can be a vital part of the tallgrass prairie.

More recently, I have broadened my talk to let them know that fire is one of the less expensive tools that a land manager has in their arsenal to properly manage most land holdings. I remind them that we live on a “fire planet” and the lessons land managers have learned if we suppress fire in biomes that have had fires in the past. The wildfires in the western forests, and especially in California, get a lot of the media attention. But across the earth, you can only suppress fires in most systems for only so long, as eventually you will have fire, but they will be most frightening and much more dangerous.

Finally (of course!), I bring up how our long-term research on KPBS can alleviate huge grassland fires if we burn regularly (e.g., in our area if you don’t burn you can have woody vegetation with the grass, which is harder to control under a wildfire situation), and how if we spread out our burning across the year we can reduce smoke-related issues in the area. We have 20+ years of burning in fall, winter and summer (along with our 40+ years of spring burning) that shows it really doesn’t matter when you burn tallgrass prairie; you just need to burn it (a lot!).

Yes, it has been a stressful spring and I won’t even bring up the problems on the Nature Trail, but KPBS is worth a little stress and the work. It is a treasure and I am much honored to be a very small piece of it.

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

Konza Burns:
Work
Beauty
Prairie Health



photo by Jill Haukos

photo by Barb Van Slyke



photo by Chod Hedinger



photo by Barb Van Slyke



photo by Barb Van Slyke



From the Stone House

Director of Education
Jill Haukos

Watching Wildlife on the Prairie

We delight in the opportunity to share the tallgrass prairie with visiting school groups. The kids are delighted in turn – marveling at whatever happens to be

growing, blooming, calling or fruiting on the day of their visit.

Our young visitors commonly note that they never knew so much was happening on the prairie! I admit that at first glance the prairie looks quite sedate, and maybe even a little sleepy. It's our job as environmental educators to open the eyes of our visitors to the complexity of life on the grassland. We have approximately 2 – 4 hours to complete the conversion – to take a visitor who is new to this ecosystem and turn them into a true prairie admirer.

To understand this area one needs to be shown or taught how to see the prairie. Once a person – child or adult, it doesn't matter – learns to see the prairie then they're sold. It isn't magic or glib speech; rather it's education.

A relatively new activity available through KEEP is entitled "Watching Wildlife on the Prairie". This activity separates kids into groups of three. Within this group are three jobs: "watcher", "listener", and "data recorder". The group is tasked with visiting three distinct habitats along the Nature Trail: gallery forest/stream, shrubland, and prairie.

At each habitat one child is the "watcher" = using binoculars or their bare eyes to see all of the different kinds of animal life viewable at that moment and indicating the numbers seen to the data recorder. One child is the "listener" = using their ears to count the number of different sounds they hear and indicating that to the data recorder.

The third child is in charge of recording the observations of the other two, and to maintain silence, makes a record of something "seen" or "heard" when the watcher or listener waves a finger or taps an arm. At each habitat they trade jobs until eventually each child has the opportunity to do each job.

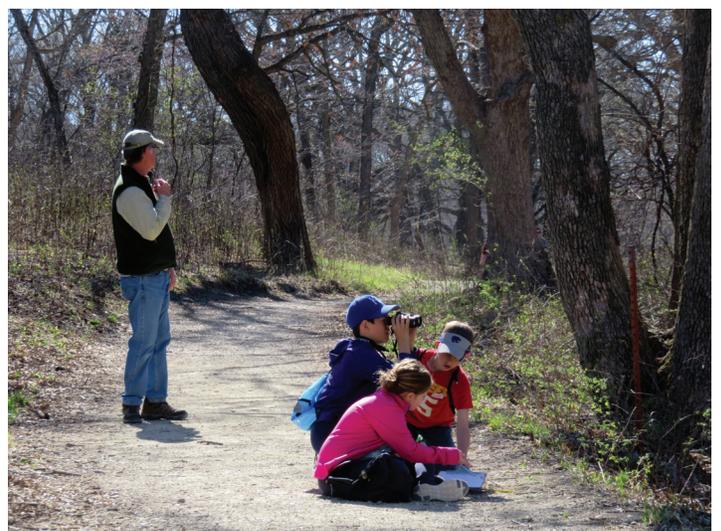
At the end of the exercise we sit as a group to discuss their findings. We talk about what job (listener or watcher) had the highest number of instances. We talk about the differences between the habitats. We talk about how hard it is to be still and quiet in order to actually see or hear something.

The end result is dramatic. The children learn that it is far easier to hear most animals than it is to see them. They learn that it takes patience and stillness in order to perceive the life around them. They learn that different habitats have different sights and sounds of animal life. They learn to work together as a team to collect data.

We shared this exercise recently with the Woodrow Wilson 4th grade and they agreed that it was a wonderful exercise that taught them many things about the beauty and complexity of the prairie. The children were then tasked with sharing what they learned with their family and friends, making them new educators on the wonders of the grassland.

Group by group, and child by child – we continue the conversion process of taking a visitor to the tallgrass prairie and changing them into an admirer of the tallgrass prairie.

Spring has arrived and it holds much promise – I hope to see you on the prairie!



Docent Profile: Greg & Jan Adams



photo by Jill Haukos

What motivated you to become a Konza Prairie docent?

Greg: I had a chance meeting with Jill Haukos and Chod Hedinger one morning while hiking the nature trail. It resulted in a discussion about volunteer opportunities on the Konza. I became excited at the idea of becoming a docent and being a part of a group that that believed in sharing the importance of the conservation and preservation of the ecosystem of the Flint Hills and the tallgrass prairie. To be able to help educate others was just too cool to pass up. One thing that made it really special was that Jan was excited to experience this journey with me. We work great together.

Jan: I had recently moved from the hardwood forest area of Ohio to Kansas. My experiences with nature were entirely dissimilar to Greg's. The flora and fauna were so entirely new to me that I wanted to learn everything I could the tallgrass prairie environment. When Greg came home with the prospect of becoming volunteers, I jumped at the idea. Not only would I have an opportunity to learn, but I could enjoy this experience with my husband.

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

Greg: Every outing on the Konza is different, but the excitement is always there. Whether the students were participating in stream exercises, grasshopper collecting, identifying wildflowers, or viewing the bison, the look of excitement on their faces makes docenting so well worth it. I never left the Konza unsatisfied.

Jan: It's hard to say what the best part of being a volunteer was for me. Because I was new to Kansas, I wanted to learn everything I could about the tallgrass prairie. The classes were led by experts in various fields of biology and the subject matter was right outside the door for a real life experience. Meeting so many like-minded nature lovers and people associated with the Konza who share a passion for learning and preserving our environment has to be one of the best parts of being a volunteer for me. However, I can't forget the impact that leading a group has on the kids. Many of the groups that came out to experience the Konza had never been exposed to its wonders. Seeing their faces light up and vicariously experiencing their thrill gave me much pleasure.

Tell us a little about your background.

Greg: I was born in Kansas and for the first eighteen years of my life I grew up as a military brat. As a result, I had many opportunities to live all over the world. Hiking and exploring became a passion. I recently retired after 32 years from a factory.

Jan: I lived in Ohio most of my life and grew up loving nature while taking summer camping trips with my family. My last home in Ohio was nestled in nine acres of woodland where I became acquainted with many species of birds, plants and forest animals. I spent 30 years teaching elementary students the basic curriculum, but felt that the study of nature and the wonders outside our door needed more attention. Therefore, I developed a weekly reading/writing assignment called nature journaling. My students loved this and I worked right alongside my students composing my own weekly journals.

What are some of your other interests?

Greg: My other interests include playing the guitar, art, and most of all, sharing my retirement with Jan. We plan on hiking trails in NE Ohio and visiting areas in other NE states. Together, Jan and I would like to develop a presentation about the Konza Prairie with the hope of being able to take it into local classrooms in our area. That excites me.

Jan: Hiking and visiting new places with Greg is certainly tops on my list of interests. I enjoy dabbling in watercolor painting, flower arranging, reading and being the best grandma I can be.

What words of wisdom do you have for FOKP members, docents, or prospective docents?

Greg: It's about presentation....keep it at the age level of the group you're working with. Keep them engaged, let them feel like they are involved. Keep it positive, fun, and simple. Also, docents, share your knowledge with each other and take advantage of educational opportunities to enhance your knowledge.

Jan: I'm going to tell you what I told my students: Be curious! Be a lifelong learner! And never underestimate the impact you can make on the environment by introducing others to its many wonders.



One Kind of Treasure

Dru Clarke

The 6th grade kids stood on the high cutbank, well away from the edge, and looked expectantly at the meandering stream below. Another group was exploring the stream edge and seemed totally engaged in their task. I did my Socratic best to elicit responses to my probing questions, but I could tell that the group I was leading just wanted to get INTO the water. I wanted them to think about how the stream got to be shaped the way it was, why rubble was in certain places and what it did to the flowing water and what might live there.

It was a warm and bright day, an enticing one to be outside, to be enjoying the air and light and what living things they nurtured. It was a day to walk slowly and look, really look, at everything, even things one would usually pass by. An orb weaver spider had spun a web on the leg of a stand used to position a camera to photograph the stream bed: the white band of the zigzag stabilimentum sparked intense interest in most. No one really knows what its function is, but it is thought to be a deterrent to birds and other flying creatures to avoid the web. One fearful boy scooted to the back of the group, terrified of the resident arachnid. I understand this as an atavistic response in many, and tried to reassure him that it meant him no harm. He took a tentative step forward and seemed to (almost) believe me. We discussed how times of heavy rains and times of drought affect streams and the life within, the age of this and other streams, and how the last glacier, when it melted, may have led to the birth of this creek. From below, a thick layer of rubble was visible in the cutbank about a dozen feet beneath the surface where we were standing, evidence of a mighty flow in the distant past, perhaps from the meltwater of that very glacier.

We moved down the path and around a wide, looping bend to another site where an oxbow had formed a decade ago. Along the way, I picked some prickly ash leaves for them to smell – it is a member of the citrus family and exudes a fragrance akin to sour oranges – and one boy said it smelled like Fruit Loops! (It is the plant upon which is found the larvae of the giant swallowtail butterfly.) Looking upstream, plants grew to the water's edge, and a gravel bar formed a teardrop-shaped island where watercress grew along its edges. Watercress is not a native plant but was brought here by settlers who longed for some tangy bite to brighten their bland diet.

The stream had once meandered eastward and emerged at our feet, but a particularly torrential rain had carried debris to a point where the water sought to escape in a new direction. The old channel, cut off, became the oxbow. It was barely discernible behind the lush growth of shrubs and trees, but we could see the eroded slope of its old cutbank. The odd name “oxbow” comes
pg. 6 May 2016

from the wooden yoke shaped to fit under an ox's neck, across its shoulders, to which a harness was attached to pull heavily loaded wagons and implements. The Kansas River, seen from satellite images, has many of these oxbows and its channel today is far different from past beds. Eureka Lake, once a thriving resort and now the home of the Job Corps, was an oxbow of the Kansas River.

As we stood there, a white-tailed doe emerged from the brush on the east bank of the creek. She glanced in our direction and did not seem startled by the wide-eyed kids who lined the bank twenty feet away. An immediate silence fell over the group: 6th graders have never been so quiet. The doe began to browse on the tender leaves of the brush, and occasionally dipped her head to touch her sensitive nostrils to the water. We were mesmerized. Time seemed to stand still, just as we did. I whispered that we need to go as another group was heading our way, and reluctantly the kids backed off the bank and up the path, unable to take their eyes off the doe.

We stopped near the bridge across the creek and the kids gathered around, having found their voices again, eager to share their sighting of the doe with the others. The little boy who was afraid of the spider stood close in front of me and looked up into my face with his brown eyes shining and said passionately, “THAT was a treasure!” Indeed, it was, and one he and the others will never forget.

photos by Dru Clarke



Assistant Environmental Educator Ashley Thackrah

Please tell us a little about your background. Where did you grow up and go to K-12 school? Feel free to add fun facts or details.

I was born in Mountain Home, Idaho, but did not live there very long because my dad was Air Force and received orders to Germany. I lived in Germany for four years, and because I was young, I do not remember much. My parents, younger brother, and I, then moved to Clovis, New Mexico, where I grew up and was able to graduate high school. Being part of a military family and being stationed in one place for almost 15 years is pretty surprising. But I was glad I was able to stay in one place where I could grow up and make friends and graduate with them. In the 6th grade, I joined band and I chose the flute as my instrument. From 6th grade until 12th grade, band was a big part of my life. I loved being a part of the marching band in high school because it felt like I was part of a big family.

A fun fact: I went to Clovis High School and our mascot was Wiley the Wildcat. Our logo for high school was the same Powercat logo as K-State and our colors were the same, purple and white. So I say that I do bleed purple, and have been and will be a Wildcat for life.

How did you end up at KSU, and what is your background in higher education?

My senior year of high school, my dad got orders to McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, KS. I was able to graduate high school in Clovis, but then we moved to Kansas. My parents thought it would be good for me to go to K-State because it was a good school, and there was also a vet school, at the time I was interested in becoming a veterinarian. My junior year of college, I decided I did not want to be a veterinarian, but was not sure what I wanted to do. I received my Bachelor of Science in Biology from K-State. After I graduated, I took an internship in Oregon at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, where I worked with their seabirds and turkey vultures. At this point, I was interested in possibly being a zookeeper. After my internship was over, I went back to New Mexico and applied for many zookeeper positions. I received a part-time Junior Zookeeper position at Sunset Zoo here in Manhattan, KS, so my soon-to-be husband, Cory, and I moved back to the Little Apple. This position allowed me the opportunity to work with the education animals, as well as working with kids who were interested in working at a zoo and educating them on husbandry for the animals. After about a year back in Manhattan, I decided I wanted to pursue a Master of Public Health degree at K-State. During my master program, I worked on a citizen science project called the Invasive Mosquito Project, which is aimed at monitoring invasive container-breeding mosquito species across the United States. This project provides students the opportunity to learn about mosquitos and the diseases they can transmit, as well as allowing students to collect real data and contribute to a national mosquito species distribution study. I received my Master of Public Health in December 2015.

What travel experiences have you experienced as a part of your higher education?

The summer before I graduated with my Bachelor's degree, I had the opportunity to take a class, Ecology of the African Savanna, and we traveled to Botswana, Africa. This class was led by Dr. David Hartnett. We learned about the plants and animals of the African savanna, as well as the African culture. This was an amazing trip and going out on morning and evening safari drives and seeing elephants, giraffes, and lions in their environment in person was incredible.

What do you like best about being a part of the Konza Environmental Education Program? Feel free to expand on this as much as you like.

I became a part of the Konza Environmental Education Program in late November 2015, and I love learning about Konza Prairie. I feel like I learn something new every day! And I really enjoy working with all the docents and getting to know them and learning from them. I also love being a part of the Konza Environmental Education Program because I have the opportunity to work with students and help them learn about the prairie. My favorite part is seeing a student who might seem uninterested at first, but end up participating and enjoying themselves.

What suggestions do you have for docents, to help you in orchestrating docent assistance for educational opportunities for the Konza Environmental Education Program?

I guess I would say that it is important for docents to check the KEEP website regularly to see what opportunities are available, as well as keeping good communication with Jill and myself. We really appreciate all the docents and the work and time they give to KEEP!



Konza Prairie

Wildflower Walk

Sunday, June 12th 6:30 pm

**\$10.00 per person—benefits the
Konza Environmental Education Program**

Free to members of the Friends of Konza Prairie

**Walk with a Konza Prairie docent volunteer and learn the spring wildflowers
along a trail not open to the public.**



Directions: Take Hwy 177 south from Manhattan over the Kansas River — turn immediately west onto McDowell Creek Road (under the “KS” hill, next to the river). Proceed 6.2 miles SW on McDowell Creek Road. See the sign for Konza Prairie Biological Station on the left (south) side of the road — turn left and proceed down the gravel road (past the Nature Trail kiosk) into headquarters. Park near the stone barn.

Call for Photos for 2017 FOKP calendar



It is time to choose the photos you would like to submit to the calendar committee for the 2017 calendar. You are asked to choose five of your very best, high resolution photos that you have taken while on the Konza Prairie Biological Station.

Submission criteria include the following:

1. Images must be taken on the Konza Prairie Biological Station, and may include landscapes, flora, fauna, or activities at Konza (research, environmental education, etc.) We hope to receive images taken at different seasons on Konza and are particularly interested in unique and original subjects.
2. Images must be in LANDSCAPE format. The printed calendar will contain photos printed approximately 10 inches horizontal and 7 1/2 inches vertical. Portrait format photos may be considered for use on FOKP note cards.

Email your photos to kchummel1@gmail.com. We will send you a release form, which you should sign and return to

FRIENDS OF KONZA PRAIRIE
DIVISION OF BIOLOGY
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY, ACKERT 116
MANHATTAN, KS 66506-4901

The deadline for submitting your photos is June 27, 2016. We are looking for some really great and beautiful photos this year. Docents, FOKP members, and Konza Biology staff are eligible to submit their photographs. If you have questions contact Karen Hummel, 785-341-0143.

In Memoriam



Hoogy Hoogheem – In Memoriam

Hoogy 's interest in the Konza Environmental Education Program came early in its development. At a time when I was struggling to get the program on its feet, he came with good and deep questions that required thought. His background with youth was ideal for helping me to understand some basic questions. He and Carol became long-term volunteers and great docents. Hoogy was one of the most knowledgeable leaders of our prairie chicken tours, which he volunteered for until just recently. He passed so much of his knowledge on to others. He was a wonderful guy!

Valerie Wright, Retired Konza Prairie Education Director



Joye Gordon – In Memoriam

We were saddened by the news of Joye Gordon's passing on March 7. Joye was a Journalism professor at Kansas State University. She graduated docent training with the class of 2006, and loved to share the Konza experience with friends and visitors. Joye was known for her enthusiasm and generous nature, and for her sense of adventure. She traveled widely for business and pleasure, including work in India as a member of a KSU delegation. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, she loaded students in an RV and took them to New Orleans to interview survivors. Joye leaves behind two daughters: Lora Pellegrin, of Ahoskie, NC, and Marie Pellegrin, of Manhattan. The family wishes donations in Joye's honor be sent to Friends of Konza Prairie.

2016 Visions of the Flint Hills

Call for Artists begins April, 2016.

Buttonwood Art Space will call artists to enter the 8th Annual VISIONS OF THE FLINT HILLS BENEFIT AND SALE to benefit research and preservation of the Flint Hills area of Kansas during April of 2016. VISIONS OF THE FLINT HILLS BENEFIT AND SALE is a juried exhibition featuring art of this vanishing prairie. All artworks depict or are derived from the Flint Hills area of Kansas. The exhibit will run from October 7 through November 25, 2016, in Buttonwood Art Space, 3013 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108.

The region's sweeping horizons and carpets of wildflowers captivate artists and enchant visitors. Open to paintings, photographs, fiber and 3-D works derived from or depicting the Flint Hills geographic area in Kansas. Categories are: Painting, Photography, 3-D, Other (includes flat fiber pieces, drawings, video, and non-traditional). DEADLINE AUGUST 14, 2016. All entries must be submitted through café at www.callforentry.org.

ARTISTS: All art submitted to the show must depict or be derived from the Flint Hills area of Kansas. You must state in your application which city/town your artwork depicts. Visitors like to connect with your art and process, so a short description of what about the Flint Hills inspired you is always nice. A single sentence or phrase will be included on title cards next to your art.

ALL Registrations and image submittal will be handled by Call For Entry (www.callforentry.org).



And follow Friends of Konza Prairie on Facebook!



Go Green and Save Paper and Postage

GET YOUR BISON & BLUESTEM electronically - in FULL COLOR;

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>

Effects of Fire on Various Grasses

photo by Chad Hedinger



Synopsis by Jim Koelliker, from an article by Walter Fick, which appeared in Morning Ag Clips on April 20, 2016.

One of the main factors that influence damage done by fires is residence time, or how long the fire stays in place and burns, Walter Fick said. Temperatures inside smoldering grasses can reach 500 degrees Fahrenheit. If the fire is moving rapidly across the top of the ground, however, the damage may be less.

Little bluestem is a key component of mixed prairies, he said: "Little bluestem is a bunchgrass, which can be several inches in diameter. Sometimes the center of those plants are dying, and once fire starts, it will set there and burn for a long period of time."

Fick said short grasses, such as buffalograss and blue grama, could be tremendously impacted by wildfires: one study showed a 65 percent reduction by the end of the first season after a wildfire. The grasses in the study did not completely recover until the third year after the fire. It's noteworthy that the fire in the study was similar to the Anderson Creek fire in timing and under dry conditions.

Rhizomatous grasses, such as big bluestem, Indiangrass and switchgrass, should recover easily, as they grow deeper in the soil at levels greater than the quarter-inch root depth that sees the most heat impact from wildfire, he said.

Note: The subject here is uncontrolled wildfires, which can generate temperatures up to 500 degrees Fahrenheit, as compared to controlled burns, which usually result in much lower temperatures, and are conducted as short-duration events.

For complete article go to:

<https://www.morningagclips.com/wildfire-effects-on-various-grasses/>





FOKP Officers

Joe Gelroth, President
 Donna McCallum, President-elect
 Cindy Quinlan, Secretary
 Shelly Gunderson, Treasurer
 John Briggs, (exofficio, KPBS Director)

Elected FOKP Board Members

Diane Barker, 2nd term, 2017
 Chuck Bussing, 2nd term, 2016
 Elizabeth Dodd, 1st term, 2016
 Joe Gelroth, 1st term, 2016
 Shelly Gunderson, 2nd term, 2018
 John Harrington, 1st term, 2018
 Karen Hummel, 2nd term, 2017
 Donna McCallum, 1st term, 2016
 Cindy Quinlan, 2nd term, 2018
 John Reese, 2nd term, 2017
 Lucas Shivers, 1st term, 2018
 Ken Stafford, 1st term, 2017

Ex officio and Honorary members

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

Director

John Briggs, Ph.D.

Administrative Asst.

Barb Van Slyke

Director of Eductaion

Jill Haukos

Site Manager

Tom Van Slyke

Assistant Director

Eva Horne, Ph.D.

Shop Foreman

Jim Larkins

Assistant Environmental Educator

Ashley Thackrah

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
Kansas State University
Division of Biology,
116 Ackert Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-4901
785-587-0441
#308

Bison & Bluestem is published quarterly by the Friends of Konza Prairie,
edited by Cindy Jeffrey, 15850 Galilee Rd. Olsburg, KS 66520 or email cinraney@ksu.edu

Cut on dotted line and give to a Friend

For NEW MEMBERS

Friends of the Konza Prairie MEMBERSHIP
Annual Membership:

- \$ ____ Student \$10
- \$ ____ Little Bluestem \$30(Individual) \$50 (family) up to \$99
- \$ ____ Big Bluestem \$100-\$149
- \$ ____ Flint Hills \$150-\$249
- \$ ____ Prairie Chicken \$250-499
- \$ ____ Bison \$500 and up

Enclose this information with your tax-deductible check payable to
Friends of Konza Prairie and mail to:

Friends of Konza Prairie
KSU, Div. of Biology, 116 Ackert Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-4901

Please list your name(s) as you would like it to appear on
our membership list:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone: (____) _____

Memberships make great gifts!

I want to give this membership as a gift to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Message:

THANK YOU!

We enjoy being able to publicly recognize and thank our
members for their support. However, if you do NOT wish
to be recognized, please indicate by checking here.

I do not wish to be publicly recognized for my contribution.