



KWEN Quarterly

April 2016

CONNECTING, INSPIRING & EMPOWERING ENVIRONMENTALLY MINDED WOMEN

IN THIS ISSUE

KWEN's Year-in-Review

April, 2016 marks the Kansas Women's Environmental Network's third anniversary, and what an exciting year it has been! It was decided early on that KWEN would provide an avenue for all environmentally minded women to learn, network and grow from each other. This group has initiated many friendships and collaborations, and has been a catalyst for action in many ways.

In October, members of the leadership team submitted a proposal to the Elizabeth Schultz Environmental Fund requesting support to host a leadership training through the Kansas Leadership Center for interested KWEN women. While we did not receive the funding, what came from this opportunity was a member-driven initiative that provided mentor training to KWEN members who are currently providing support to KWEN women interested in developing their own leadership skills and achieving their personal goals. The Shoulder-to-Shoulder program was spear headed by KWEN leadership team member, Sue Kidd and contributing member, Ginna Kellogg. Both women have strong backgrounds in leadership training and coaching. This program has been a great success, and we look forward to seeing it grow in the future!

We are also excited to see the lasting success of the monthly Green Drinks Meet-ups, Walk-the-Talk hikes and our new KWEN

Book Club. Again, these events exist because someone in the group had an idea, and was encouraged to run with it. It is our hope that we will see more organization and action from the group over the next year.

As KWEN continues to grow in engagement, activities, and outcomes, we realized that to maintain this dynamic network, we needed to ask participants for their support. This year was our pilot for launching KWEN as a membership organization. We have been overwhelmed with the amount of support we received. Please know that all of the money you contribute is used to further KWEN's mission to connect, inspire and empower environmentally minded women. On page 2 of the newsletter you will see a snapshot of the year-end budget. If you have specific questions about KWEN's budget and finances, please reach out to the leadership team at kwenleadership@gmail.com.

The KWEN leadership team is a dynamic group, and we hope to stay that way by continuing to recruit new members. Check out the Kudos sections of this newsletter to see some of the leadership changes that are taking place this coming year.

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Walk-the-Talk hikes take place the first Saturday of the month. Details will be sent to the list serve and are posted on our Facebook page. Don't miss out!

Acknowledging the Rootstock

A thank you note to our first-year contributing members.

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Kansas Land Trust Celebrates 25 Years

See how they plan to celebrate!

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Kudos

Read about the good news and accomplishments of KWEN women.

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And so much more!

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You have helped build this network and we hope that you will continue this engagement in the future! We look forward to seeing you all at our annual potluck celebration on April 19th, from 6:30 to 8:30 at the White School House (1510 N. 3rd St., Lawrence, KS 66044). As always, this will be a casual event with delicious food and company. Thank you all for a great year!

The KWEN Leadership Team

UPCOMING EVENTS



2nd Annual Day of Creativity
1-4 pm Sunday, April 24
KU Natural History Museum

Reimagine the known and pursue the unknown. The Day of Creativity explores new ways to answer questions surrounding the intersection of the arts and sciences. Enjoy performances, demonstrations, food and hands-on activities. Re-examine your modes of understanding and rediscover your own creativity. Don't just think outside the box; think like there is no box. This event presented by the KU Natural History Museum and the Spencer Museum of Art. Representatives of the Biodiversity Institute will be available to help you explore the intersection between art, science and the humanities.

Thank You to Our "Rootstock" Members!

We continue to grow with 40 contributing members in 2015, 188 women on our email list serve and over 300 women on the Facebook group. Your membership contributions totaled \$1,735! With that we were able to provide small incentives to our contributing members and to speakers that participated in our quarterly meetings. The majority of the membership money is used to secure venues for the quarterly events, and cover non-food related expenses (media and other rentals). We have designated our 2015 contributing members our "Rootstock" members. You have provided the support necessary to help this organization thrive, and we owe you a debt of thanks. Without your support, this network would not be possible!

THE KWEN ROOTSTOCK MEMBERS INCLUDE:

- RACHEL MYSLIVY
- JENNY O'BRIEN
- DAWN BUEHLER
- KAY JOHNSON
- CHAVIS LICKVAR-ARMSTRONG
- JENNIFER KONGS
- JULIE COLEMAN
- DURAND REIBER
- HELEN SCHNOES
- SHARON ASHWORTH
- BETTY STERLING
- KIM BELLEMERE
- ELIZABETH SCHULTZ
- KELLEY HURST
- JENICA NELSON
- KATHY RICHARDSON
- SUSAN STOVER



- WENDY GRISWOLD
- SOFIA GALARZA LIU
- SUE KIDD
- TRESA CARTER
- JOANNA VOIGT
- OLGA KHAKOVA
- JEAN FINCH
- LOUIE GALLOWAY
- RAVEN NARAMORE
- MEGAN WITHIAM
- MICHELLE GUNDY
- UMA OUTKA
- CYNTHIA ANNETT
- GINNA KELLOGG
- LYNNE RENICK
- NANCY HUBBLE
- PATTY ROBERTS
- SUSAN JONES
- DEBRA BAKER
- TERESA RASMUSSEN
- LYNN BYCZYNSKI
- WILLA MYSLIVY

YEAR-END BUDGET 2015

Kansas Women's Environmental Network Profit & Loss January through December 2015	
	Jan - Dec 15
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Program Income	
Membership Dues	1,610.00
Program Service Fees	455.00
Total Program Income	2,065.00
Total Income	2,065.00
Expense	
Facilities and Equipment	
Facility & Equipment Rental	525.00
Meals	537.80
Total Facilities and Equipment	1,062.80
Operations	
PayPal/Bank Expenses	8.46
Printing and Copying	32.43
Supplies	263.00
Total Operations	303.89
Total Expense	1,366.69
Net Ordinary Income	698.31
Net Income	698.31

KACEE ANNOUNCES ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARDS



The Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Excellence in Conservation and Environmental Education Awards. Nominated by their peers, these awardees exhibit outstanding innovation, leadership and achievement, as well as collaboration and cooperation within and beyond the environmental education field. “KACEE is pleased to honor these deserving individuals and organizations, who contribute so much to environmental education in Kansas,” said KACEE President Jared Bixby, Curator of Education at the Sunset Zoological Park.

Awardees were recognized at an Awards Celebration hosted by KACEE on Friday, April 1, 2016, at Sunset Zoo in Manhattan. The event was sponsored by KACEE, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and Sunset Zoo.

AWARDEES BY CATEGORY:

John K. Strickler Award

This award, named after one of KACEE’s founders and first executive director John K. Strickler, honors the lifetime achievements, contributions, and leadership of individuals in the Kansas conservation and environmental education field.

KWEN Member, Joyce Wolf, LeCompton, KS

KACEE is pleased to announce this year’s recipient of our lifetime achievement award for excellence in environmental education, Joyce Wolf. Joyce has been involved in environmental education for more than 30 years and is a familiar, respected and trusted among those who work in the field of environmental education. With early beginnings in leading educational efforts on the Clean Air Act, to her leadership for the Jayhawk Audubon Society, the consistent pattern in Joyce’s career and volunteer work is a dedication to the important role that good environmental education plays in understanding and caring for the places we

live. For instance, in her volunteer work with Jayhawk Audubon, Joyce and her husband Ron frequently lead a project called the Wetlands Learners Program, (now the Learning About Nature Project.) which was eventually replaced with the Learning About Nature Project. Both projects involved taking students to sites where they could have hands-on experience in nature and develop an awareness, appreciation and understanding of complex environmental issues. This hands on, up close and interactive form of environmental education epitomizes excellence. From 1995 –2001, Joyce served as the Executive Director for the Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance (KVHA). The mission of the KVHA was to form a broad coalition of organizations cooperating to promote greater awareness, appreciation and stewardship of the cultural and natural resources of the Kansas River (Kaw) Valley. Joyce successfully wrote a significant grant from the EPA, which permitted the KVHA to hire two coordinators to plan and carry out the “Rollin’ Down the River” festival in 1997. This successful grant also led to the first Kaw Valley Eagles Day event, a highly successful event that showcases many organizations and approaches to environmental education. 2016 is the 20th Kaw Valley Eagle Days Celebration and it seems fitting that Joyce be honored for her leadership this year. Her involvement in environmental education in Kansas is extensive and long term. These are a few of the many examples of ways which Joyce Wolf embodies the essence of the Strickler Award, lifelong dedication and commitment to high quality environmental education. (These are but a few of so many examples that Joyce Wolf embodies the life-long dedication and commitment to high quality environmental education that the Strickler Award recognizes.) KACEE is pleased to honor Joyce Wolf as our 2016 Strickler Award recipient for life-time excellence in conservation and environmental education.

KACEE Awards

KACEE Awards are given in several categories and recognize outstanding leadership, achievements, and collaborations by individuals and organizations with at least five years’ experience in conservation and environmental education in Kansas.

KWEN Member, Kim Bellemere, Lawrence, KS (Community and Non-Profit)

Kim Bellemere has a contagious passion for conservation and community. Her leadership in several non-profit

organizations, including the Grassland Heritage Foundation, the Kansas Women’s Environmental Network and the Kaw Valley Native Plant Coalition demonstrate her passion for both environmental education and gathering people together to make a difference. Ms Bellemere exemplifies the importance of civic engagement in environmental education. Over the last several years, Kim has worked extensively in environmental education with youth and parents in northeast Kansas. She was a member of the Lawrence Sustainability Network Leadership Council from 2009-2011 and a co-founder and coordinator of the Raintree Montessori School Monarch Waystation Program from 2009 to 2013. The projects she founded at schools in Kansas continue to thrive and encourage our students to appreciate native plants and animals, every day. At her current position with the Grassland Heritage Foundation (GHF), Kim serves as the Membership and Education Coordinator and is responsible for organizing and planning their educational activities, reaching thousands each year. Kim works within and between communities to identify volunteers, target projects appropriate for GHF, and educate the public on the importance of conservation work. Most recently, Kim was instrumental in founding the Kansas Women’s Environmental Network, a network of more than 200 women from around the state who share ideas, information, job opportunities, host a book club and more, ultimately encouraging the kind of collaboration and cooperation among and between organizations that makes a difference. KACEE is pleased to honor Kim Bellemere for her leadership in environmental education.

Stephanie Carlson, Hutchinson, KS (Community and Non-Profit)

KACEE is pleased to recognize Ms. Stephanie Carlson for her outstanding environmental education work through both her professional and volunteer efforts. Upon returning to Kansas in 1998, Stephanie began volunteering with the Dillon Nature Center. With a degree in Forestry, running educational programs as a volunteer might seem a bit daunting, but as her colleague, Mary Clark, Director of the Dillon Nature Center noted, “Stephanie was one of those dream volunteers who was never satisfied with ‘just the basics.’ Before each nature hike she would read and reread the training material and then research more information on her own. She was always willing to dive in and try anything we put before her.” It is no wonder that when funding at the Dillon

Nature Center became available in 2009, Stephanie was hired as a half-time employee and has since moved to a full-time employee in 2012. Most recently, Ms. Carlson has been responsible for aligning programs with the Next Generation Science Standards, implementing STEM programming in schools, and training volunteers to lead programs. In the 2015-2016 school year, Stephanie presented STEM programs to more than 700 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students on Green Energy, Invasive Species, and Energy Transfer. Each year she meets with curriculum directors from our contract schools to make sure we are providing the services that meet their needs at each grade level. Besides providing programs for more than 20,000 school age children, Stephanie leads public programs for preschoolers, adults and families, and prepares lesson plans for our summer camp staff. In honor of the enormous contributions Stephanie has made in the Hutchinson community, KACEE is pleased to honor her with this award for excellence in environmental education.

Kerri Ebert, Project Coordinator for Kansas State Research and Extension, Manhattan, KS (Agriculture)

For the past fourteen years, Kerri Ebert has shown exceptional leadership and dedication to educating Kansans about sustainable agriculture and farm safety through her work as Project Coordinator of the Kansas AgrAbility Project, Extension Farm Safety Program, and Kansas Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Alternative Crops (KCSAAC). In this capacity, she provides consultation and review of proposals for Sustainable Agriculture, Research, and Education (SARE) for the North Central Region. She has written several grants and publications to further the cause of sustainable agriculture in Kansas. In addition to the formal nature of her work, Kerri is an incredibly intuitive leader and supportive colleague. She has a keen understanding of the complexities involved in the Kansas agriculture and natural resources scene, along with a dedication to helping others make the connections required to make environmental education a reality across the state. During her time with Kansas AgrAbility and SARE, Kerri has secured almost three million dollars of funding for professional development for natural resources, agricultural professionals, and extension specialists and programs that

provide education for youth and adults on farm safety and health. From local farm tours to regional and national conferences, Kerri actively and thoroughly educates herself on the importance of sustainable agriculture and farm safety. The most important piece of Kerri's work is she makes sure that the knowledge is disseminated across the state. Her collaborative spirit, determination, and genuine good will towards others make her a true leader in the Kansas environmental world. Rachel Myslivy, who nominated Ms. Ebert for this award summed up Kerri's contributions to environmental education in the following, "A true collaborator, Kerri constantly strives to find what works and make it happen. Her fingerprints can be seen in many outstanding sustainable agriculture projects through the KSAAC logo. She leverages her position to secure funding that expands educational opportunities through various organizations with diverse perspectives across the state." KACEE is pleased to honor Ms. Ebert with this award.

Erinn Stiles, Curator of Education for Tanganyika Wildlife Park, Goddard KS (Community/Non-Profit)

KACEE is excited to honor Erinn Stiles for her excellence in environmental education. Ms. Stiles began her pathway toward environmental education while attending Kansas State and as a docent and part-time seasonal educator for the Sunset Zoo in Manhattan, KS. Upon graduation, Erinn moved to the Wichita area and took a position with the Tanganyika Wildlife Park as a volunteer coordinator. Though Erinn greatly enjoyed the challenge of starting a volunteer program, she also wanted to add an environmental education component to her position. In 2009, Erinn began to develop education programs for Tanganyika and in early 2010, she took the official title of Education Coordinator. In a short period of time, Erinn was able to develop assembly shows, classroom programs, overnight programs, and scout workshops, all with an environmental-education focus. Now, Erinn facilitates over 200 education programs and shows per year. Her environmental-education based programs and tours impacted over 30,000 students and adults in 2015. As if developing and delivering school, scout, and community programs wasn't enough, in 2014, Erinn developed a Safari Summer Camp for Tanganyika. Recognizing the need for students to experience, explore, and engage with the natural world during the summer, Erinn developed a series of week-

long camp curricula for elementary-aged students. Over 80 individual campers attended the six weeks of programming offered in 2015, a huge success for a first-year camp. Though she has only been working full-time in the field of environmental education for 6.5 years, Erinn Stiles has already made a tremendous impact on both Tanganyika and the Wichita Metro Area. Her dedication to conservation-based environmental education has grown by leaps and bounds since her start in college, and it is only poised to grow exponentially in the future. KACEE is pleased to honor Ms. Stiles with this award.

Daryl Finch, Council Grove High School, Council Grove, KS (PreK-16 Education)

It doesn't take long to recognize that Mr. Finch's high school science classroom isn't typical—but then, neither is Daryl. As a biology teacher at Council Grove High School, Mr. Finch has extended his classroom well beyond the four walls of his classroom. Teaching in the heart of the Flinthills, Daryl has spent significant time studying the native grasses of his area by creating learning opportunities with the Konza Biological Field Station (managed by KSU). He has even worked to create his own native grass studies using White Memorial Camp - located near the local federal reservoir. Recently, when Council Grove approved a bond to build additions on to Council Grove High School, Daryl created a plan to develop planting areas of native vegetation in the newly created landscaped areas. Using this area as a classroom, Daryl and his students implemented the plan. This is a hallmark of Mr. Finch's approach to education—his students are leaders. Daryl and his students have started a school garden as well. During the fall and spring our students study vegetation, watering, composting, and conservation of resources in the real-life classroom of a garden. Not only do the students learn, but Council Grove's food service program utilizes some of the school-grown garden produce.

Currently, Daryl and his students have taken a deeper focus on their study of water. Daryl and his students are organizing a "Water Event", to be held in March, at their facility and open to the public, again with students leading the charge. Most recently Daryl has expanded his expertise beyond Council Grove to serving and learning with "Solutioneers." A program funded through the Pisces Foundation, "Solutioneers" are dared to think big and

bold to develop more opportunities for students to learn about conservation and environmental education in Kansas. Daryl is co-leading an effort to create a statewide group for students in their schools called WILD. WILD's mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students and the land in which they live by developing their potential for leadership, personal growth, and connection to their environment. Daryl is helping to lead toward a vision of developing students whose lives are impacted by WILD and environmental education. Students achieve academic and personal growth, participate in outdoor activities and provide leadership to build healthy local communities, a strong land ethic, and a sustainable world. KACEE is pleased to honor Mr. Daryl Finch for his outstanding leadership and dedication to high quality, non-biased environmental education.

Kansas Green School of the Year Award

This award recognizes Kansas public and private schools that have demonstrated innovation, leadership, whole school involvement, and an integrated, holistic, sustainable approach to implementing environmental projects with a strong environmental education component into their schools.

Complete High School Maize, Maize, KS

Complete High School Maize (CHSM) is an alternative school located in Maize, KS. CHSM is an experiential, project-based, service learning school that serves between 60-70 students at a time. Eight people make up the entire staff including the principal, science teacher, teacher/assistant principal, english teacher, social studies teacher, business teacher, secretary, and paraprofessional. And while CHSM is small, their accomplishments are mighty. A high school where students lead the way, CHSM began their green school efforts in 2008 when students noticed how much trash the school created. They investigated, researched school recycling programs across the country and developed their own plan to begin recycling at the high school. As the CHSM principal, Kristy Custer noted, "The students soon found that once they began recycling, it was difficult NOT to recycle, and they found themselves going out of their way to prevent throwing things in the trash. For instance, they would carry a separate bag for cans when participating in the Adopt-a-Highway program." The recycling project has been so successful that CHSM is now

coordinating recycling at four elementary schools, the Educational Support Center, as well as the Copy Center. Community members are also invited to drop off recycling in the school's recycle bins. CHSM students pride themselves on customer service and even arrange pick-up for one elderly resident who is homebound. In 2011-12, CHSM recycled 13.30 tons of paper, which ranked 3rd among schools in the surrounding communities; in 2013-2014, CHSM recycled almost 15 tons of paper, which ranked 2nd. Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, the project became large enough that each of the elementary schools had their own recycle bins placed at the individual schools. CHSM students still assist elementary students or do the pick-up at these buildings. This has led to students exploring ways to compost and experiment with composting larvae and needing a great place to use compost, branching into gardening. Instead of conducting a conventional fundraiser this Spring, students will be starting vegetable and flower seeds to sell. Students will conduct soil testing and research which plants can be transplanted well and when to start the seeds indoors. Plans are in place for the students to sell plants for donations at CHSM and at a local farmer's market. A Kansas Green School since 2012, Complete High School Maize has progressed from implementing an environmental education program into its school, to teaching and assisting other schools how to implement an environmental education program in their schools. The students and staff are leading the way for environmental education in their community and KACEE is proud to honor Complete High School Maize as a Kansas Green School of Excellence.

For more information on the awards celebration event, visit www.kacee.org/ee-awards or call 785-532-1902

KUDOS

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE KWEN LEADERSHIP TEAM, **COURTNEY MASTERSON** AND **DR. CYNTHIA ANNETTE!** COURTNEY DESCRIBES HERSELF AS BEING, "PLANT OBSESSED" AND SPENDS MUCH OF HER TIME TEACHING THE PUBLIC ABOUT NATIVE LANDSCAPES. CYNTHIA'S PASSION AND EXPERTISE IN ZOOLOGY, ECOLOGY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES WILL BE A GREAT ASSET TO OUR GROUP. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO READ THEIR

BIOS ON OUR WEBSITE AT [HTTP://KANSASWOMENSENVIRONMENTALNETWORK.COM/KWEN-LEADERSHIP/](http://kansaswomensenvironmentalnetwork.com/kwen-leadership/). WE ARE THRILLED TO HAVE THEM ON BOARD!

KWEN MEMBER, **EMILY RENO** HAS BEEN WORKING ON AN EXCITING PROJECT THROUGH JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE. THROUGH HER TRAVELS TO MEXICO, EMILY DEVELOPED A PASSION FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE SPANISH LANGUAGE. SHE HAS SINCE BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR STUDENTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO SHARE HER EXPERIENCES. EMILY IS ORGANIZING THIS YEAR'S TRIP AND HOSTING A CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN TO SEND FIFTEEN STUDENTS BACK TO LAS PINTAS, MEXICO IN MAY. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORK THAT TAKES PLACE DURING THIS TRIP, CHECK OUT: <https://jccc.useed.net/>

CONGRATULATIONS TO KWEN MEMBERS **JOYCE WOLF** AND **KIM BELLEMERE** FOR THEIR KACEE SPONSORED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARDS!

JENNY O'BRIEN IS STEPPING AWAY FROM HER CO-CHAIR POSITION ON THE KWEN LEADERSHIP TEAM. WE SHARED DETAILS ABOUT JENNY'S PROJECTS AND HER POSITION AT THE MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER. WE'RE THRILLED TO SEE HER BE SO SUCCESSFUL, BUT WILL MISS HAVING HER ON OUR TEAM. THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR WORK!



Let's Connect!

Green Drinks Lawrence is organized by the Kansas Women's Environmental Network and will meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 5-7 p.m. at Merchants Pub and Plate. Gatherings are always agenda free and in Lawrence, KS. Green Drinks Lawrence is open to any and all!

UPCOMING EVENTS



APRIL 9TH (AND EVERY SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH) – THE JOHNSON COUNTY, KS HHW & ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 8-11:30 AM AT 5901 JIM BILL'S ROAD MISSION, KS 66203 8-11:30

APRIL 30TH - THE CITY OF TOPEKA ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 9-1 AT 400 SE 8TH ST TOPEKA, KS

KUDOS

WE WANT TO THANK **JENNIFER KONGS** FOR SERVING ON THE KWEN LEADERSHIP TEAM FROM THE GROUP'S INCEPTION. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DON'T KNOW, JENNIFER IS ONE OF THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF A NEW GLOBAL MEDIA COMPANY, **B THE CHANGE MEDIA**, TAKING SHAPE HERE IN LAWRENCE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT BUSINESSES AND COMPANIES WHO ARE WORKING TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE, CHECK OUT THEIR **WEBSITE (BTCHANGE.COM)** AND **FACEBOOK PAGE**. WITH THIS ADVENTURE AHEAD OF HER, SHE IS STEPPING AWAY FROM HER WORK ON THE LEADERSHIP TEAM. WE WILL MISS HAVING HER INSIGHT AND LOOK FORWARD TO HER SUCCESS!

EARLIER IN THE YEAR ONE OF OUR COMMUNICATIONS GURUS, **TRESA CARTER** LEFT THE LEADERSHIP TEAM TO PURSUE GRADUATE STUDIES IN THE KANSAS CITY AREA. WE APPRECIATE ALL OF HER HARD WORK AND WISH HER THE BEST WITH HER STUDIES!

Kansas Land Trust Celebrates 25 Years

The Kansas Land Trust is 25! We're celebrating with a May Day party in a big red barn overlooking the fertile, rolling Kansas River Valley. All our members and friends, past, present, and new are invited to come together to feast and honor the tremendous, tangible accomplishments of KLT's first 25 years:

- KLT'S FOUNDERS WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN THE ENACTMENT OF THE FIRST LEGISLATION ENABLING KANSAS LANDOWNERS TO PROTECT THEIR HERITAGE IN PERPETUITY THROUGH CONSERVATION EASEMENTS.

- WE HOLD 65 - AND COUNTING – EASEMENTS PROTECTING OVER 31,800 ACRES OF NATIVE PRAIRIE, WOODLANDS, CROPLANDS AND RANCLANDS IN THE FLINT HILLS AND THROUGHOUT KANSAS.

- WE'VE EXTENDED OUR REACH AND ENHANCED OUR MISSION BY DEVELOPING STRONG COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH MANY ENVIRONMENTAL, GOVERNMENTAL, AND GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS.

- WE CARRY OUT REGULAR, DEDICATED MONITORING AND STEWARDSHIP OF EVERY EASEMENT TO ENSURE THAT THE CONSERVATION VALUES OF THE LAND ARE HONORED AND PRESERVED.

Every easement KLT has closed over 25 years represents a promise made to current and future Kansans that we will protect that property forever. Moral and financial support from the conservation community is the bedrock anchoring those promises.

Thus the 25th Anniversary party will celebrate past achievements, but we're



also hoping to kick-start support for our next 25 years of promise-keeping with a Kansas-themed live and silent auction. We'll have items such as a private workshop with plein air painter Lisa Grossman, a weekend stay in Lucas, the Grassroots Art Capitol of Kansas (also just a few miles from Wilson Lake!), quilts by a Kansas quilter, art depicting the Kansas landscape, an art lesson in a private studio overlooking the Kansas River, a Kansas gift basket and more.

Dinner (including as much local and seasonal food as humanly possible!) will be provided by Raven Naramore of Raven's Table, chef extraordinaire and fellow KWEN member, and beer and wine will be included. Tickets to the event, which is Sunday, May 1, 2016 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Thellman's farm, 1547 N. 2000 Road, Lawrence, are \$50.00/person. To RSVP, send a check to KLT, 16 E. 13th Street, Lawrence 66044; or use the donate button on our website: www.klt.org. Be sure to note that your donation is for the 25th Anniversary party. Deadline for RSVP's is April 23rd.

KLT was founded 25 years ago by just a few passionate people outraged by the clandestine midnight plowing of a local native prairie. Come party with us to celebrate what they and so many others have since built. And bring your own passion for keeping promises to the future!

Spring Has Sprung!

Working on your native or perennial garden this spring? Don't miss these native plant sales:

APRIL 16 - Backyard Bird Center, Native Plant Sale by Burroughs Audubon, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, 6212 NW Barry Road, KC MO 64154, [816-746-1113](tel:816-746-1113)

APRIL 16 - Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center, MO Prairie Foundation Native Plant Sale, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm, 4750 Troost Ave, KC MO 64110, [816-716-9159](tel:816-716-9159), www.moprairie.org

APRIL 23 & APRIL 30 - City Market, MO Prairie Foundation Native Plant Sale, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, 20 East 5th St, KC MO 64106, [816-716-9159](tel:816-716-9159), www.moprairie.org

APRIL 28 - Green Business Network Spring Social - Cinder Block Brewery, 110 E. 18th Avenue, North Kansas City, MO 64116, \$10 for Green Business Network Members, \$20 for Non-members, <https://www.bridgingthegap.org/green-business-network-events/>

APRIL 30 - John Wornall House, Spring Herb & Wildflower Sale, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, 61st Terrace & Wornall Rd., KC MO 64113, [816-444-1858](tel:816-444-1858), www.wornallhouse.org

MAY 7 - Monarch Watch Plant Sale & Open House, 8:00am - 2:00pm, Foley Hall, University of Kansas, 2021 Constant Avenue, Lawrence, KS, www.monarchwatch.org/openhouse

May 7 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Plant Sale sold by K.C. chap. Missouri Native Plant Society, Powell Gardens www.powellgardens.org, Spring 1609 N.W. U.S. Hwy 50, Kingsville MO 64061 Powell Garden "Members-only sale" Friday, May 6, 5-7 p.m.

May 13 & 14, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Weston Bend State Park Wings Over Weston Birding Festival Native Plant Sale 16600 Hwy. 45 North, Weston MO 64098 [816-540-3515](tel:816-540-3515), wingsoverweston@burroughs.org

4th Annual GHF Native Plant Sale



When: Saturday, May 14, 2016
Where: Lawrence Public Library Lawn
 707 Vermont St, Lawrence, KS
Time: 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Native wildflowers and grasses are **beautiful, hardy,** and can **thrive** in home landscapes - and pollinators love them! Support GHF as we sell a variety of wildflowers and grasses that would be great for your yard!

All plants will be **\$4.00** and are Kansas natives.

Talk to the Experts - Landscape and prairie experts will be on hand to help you choose your plants and give advice on how to plant them.

GHF Members can get a **discount!** Members who order ahead of time pay \$3.50 each. Contact us at ghfplantsale@gmail.com or 913-856-4784 for more information.



"Finding Justice in the Low-Carbon Transition" Symposium April 28, 2016 KU Commons

How can the low-carbon transition advance social justice? That is the focus of this upcoming symposium that will bring together academics, policy advocates and activists, professionals, students, and members of the community at large who care about the environment and social justice goals at the community scale. The Symposium runs from 9-3:30 and features 9 Plenary Presenters and panel discussion. This event is free and open to the public - register early at <http://www.carbonjusticeconference.com>

Some of the Plenary Presenters include: "Just Energy Pathways"

Shalanda Baker, Assoc. Professor, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii

"Energy, Resilience, and Fairness"

Rob Verchick, Eminent Scholar and Chair in Environmental Law, Loyola University New Orleans

"The Resilience and Climate Change Cooperative Project"

Philip Berke, Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning Institute for Sustainable Coastal Communities, Texas A&M University

HEATING UP: Artists Respond to Climate Change

Heating Up: Artists Respond to Climate Change is an art exhibit and month-long series of cultural and educational events in Lawrence, Kansas, intended to bolster a community conversation about climate change and what we can do about it. Sponsored by the USDAC-Lawrence Field Office and Lawrence Ecology Teams United in Sustainability (LETUS) with Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) and the Lawrence Percolator.

MAIN EVENT: "Heating Up: Artists Respond to Climate Change" is an art exhibit that includes the work of dozens of local and regional artists, poets, and performers; Final Friday opening on Mar. 25, 2016, 5-10pm, Lawrence Percolator (in the alley east of New Hampshire St. between 9th St. and 10th St); **open Mar. 25 - Apr. 23** on Saturdays and Sundays, 12-5pm.

"A Change in the Weather: Writing From Climate Change Art" is a writing workshop led by former poet laureate Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg and naturalist/writer Ken Lassman; participants will consider their own "internal and external weather" in relation to climate change by dwelling among the art as a key writing prompt; **Sunday April 17, 2-4pm**, Lawrence Percolator; free all-ages, no sign-up needed, plan to attend the whole workshop to help create a space for deep sharing/creating, children must be accompanied by parent/guardian.

"How Can We Work Together on Climate Change?" is a panel discussion that brings together five panelists with an exciting combination of expertise on climate change, activism, culture, and the arts: Saralyn Reece Hardy, Director of the Spencer Museum of Art; Thad Holcombe, retired Ecumenical Christian Ministries Campus Minister at KU, Moderator for LETUS; Eileen Horn, Sustainability Coordinator for Douglas County and the City of Lawrence; Jay T. Johnson, Assoc. Professor and Assoc. Chair of Geography and Atmospheric Science at KU and directs KU's Center for Indigenous Research, Science, and Technology; Dan Wildcat, professor at Haskell Indian Nations University and Director of the Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center; music by Alex Williams, art by Haskell students; free and open to the public, **Sun. Apr. 10, 3-5pm**, Parker Hall, Rm. 110, Haskell Indian Nations University.

"Mrs. Noah in Poetry and Dance" is a collaborative performance by poet Elizabeth Schultz and dancer Joan Stone; performance includes Stone's insightful dance interpretations of Schultz's poems that reflect on the relationships among humans and animals; Stone and Schultz are both retired scholars from KU; Fri. Apr. 15, 2016, Lawrence Percolator, performances at 7pm and 9pm.

ADDITIONAL RELATED EVENTS

Spencer Art Cart "Landscape Transformations" is a drop-in activity station sponsored by the Spencer Museum of Art for families and other groups inviting participants to learn how to create a landscape pencil drawing inspired by works in the Spencer's Classroom Collection, and watch it transform with water; Sat. Mar. 12, 2016, 1:30-4:30pm, Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St.

Hang-12 "Affecting Change" includes art made by teens using repurposed materials, coordinated by the Lawrence Art Center's youth curatorial board Hang-12; Final Friday opening on Mar. 25, 5-8pm, Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St, runs through Apr., open Tue. - Fri., 10am-4pm (Thurs. in Apr. 10am - 8pm).

Eco Ambassadors "Haskell Wetlands Restoration Day" invites the public to join this Haskell student-led workday of seeding and planting to help restore the Haskell Wetlands, on Saturday April 16, 2016, 10am-2pm. Bring gloves and gardening/landscaping tools. Directions: Come straight on Massachusetts St. heading S., continue S. past Indian Health Service. Massachusetts St. turns into W. Perimeter Rd. so keep going and follow road around campus until you get to the intersection of W. Perimeter Rd. and Barker Ave. Dr. Then turn right onto Barker Ave. Dr. (you are going south), go straight and you will run right into the wetlands access gate.



The Kansas Women's Environmental Network connects, inspires and empowers environmentally minded women

Established in 2013, KWEN maintains political neutrality to serve the diverse audience of Kansas women interested in environmental topics. Meetings take place in Lawrence, KS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT KWEN

For general questions, please feel free to contact the KWEN leadership group at KWENleadership@gmail.com

You can find out more about KWEN events and gatherings on our website: <https://kansaswomensenvironmentalnetwork.wordpress.com/>

Sign up to be a contributing KWEN member at <http://tinyurl.com/KWENmembership>

For questions regarding the following:

Green Drinks

Contact Jenica Nelson

lawrence.greendrinks@gmail.com

Walk the Talk Hikes

Contact Julie Coleman

jumars6941@att.net

KWEN Quarterly Newsletter

Contact Chavis Lickvar-Armstrong

clickvar@ku.edu

KWEN Book Club

Contact Helen Schnoes

helenaschnoes@gmail.com