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Spring is springing, and one of my favorite ways to pass time - watching the grass grow - is about to happen. Spring has to be the busiest time of the year for everybody, at least everybody I know, and yet, it's the time of year we most look forward to. Goes to show we enjoy being busy.

It seems to me there is a continuing increase in rangeland management and the multiple use aspects of rangelands. Those of us in the profession of education and promotion of good range management practices, have been enjoying a genuine interest in what we are doing this last decade. This interest comes from not only farmers and ranchers, but also from suburban and even urban dwellers who see rangelands as a valuable resource of wildlife, wide open spaces, recreational opportunities and ranching or "cowboy" culture. It's truly an interesting and challenging time to be part of the Society for Range Management.

Ironically, this new interest in the grasslands of the USA has not expressed itself in new members for SRM. Mort Kothmann, in the March issue of the Trail Boss News, brings attention to the need for more SRM members. Kansas is no exception to this problem, and it's a problem each of us needs to spend some time on. The interest and concern for rangelands by the general public has never been higher - and we should cash in on that by recruiting members for the "flagship society" of rangeland management. Mort offers a few things each of us should do. First we should make a mental inventory of the benefits we gain by contributing our time and energy as an active member. Second, keep a few membership applications in our briefcase, or the pickup dash. Next, when working with professionals, ask if they are members, and explain what SRM does. Look for opportunities to partner with other groups on public programs, and use that opportunity to promote SRM. Finally, consider SRM membership as an opportunity to "make a difference" for natural resources.

There are a number of exciting things happening in our profession these days. It is certainly not "business as usual." Take note of our spring meeting information in this letter and plan to attend.

I think it will be a fun time for those of us in attendance, and challenge us to learn more of alternative, multiple use management strategies.

Have a good spring, and remember, "nature teaches, she never preaches."