

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Carol Blocksome

President, Kansas Section, SRM

The Kansas Section Society for Range Management is joining with Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams to hold a fall conference, CPR II, on September 27-29, 2005 in Wichita at the Marriott Hotel. The meetings will cover riparian issues associated with grazing and wildlife, invasive weeds, and partnering with other agencies and groups. A brochure with complete details will be posted at <http://www.kaws.org/>. Registration costs are \$65/day or \$150 for all 3 days.

On Wednesday, the SRM annual meeting will be held at The Italian Gardens Restaurant, 505 South Webb, Wichita, KS at 6:00 PM.

Conference Hotel:

Marriott
 9100 Corporate Hills Drive
 800-619-0673
 \$77 single/double
 Reserve by Sept. 5, mention KAWS conference

Other nearby motels:

Comfort Inn
 9525 E. Corporate Hills Drive
 316.686.2844
 \$65 single/double

Fairfield Inn
 33 S. Webb Road
 316.685.3777
 \$69 single/double

Super 8 Motel
 527 S. Webb Road
 316.686.3888
 \$46.80 single, \$49.50 double

CPR for Wetlands and Streams II

Day 1 (September 27)

Discover new technologies that will help you manage wetlands, streams, and riparian areas more effectively. You will see and hear first-hand accounts of how people are implementing solutions for critical resource needs.

7:30 a.m. Registration
 8:30 General Session
 11:50 Lunch
 1:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Day 2 (September 28)

Features emerging issues like invasive species control and other grazinglands considerations as well as providing you time with technology experts to learn the latest in managing these valuable resources.

7:30 a.m. Registration
 8:30 General Session
 9:20 Concurrent Sessions
 11:50 Lunch - Salt Cedar Control Strategies in Colorado, Shelly Van Landingham, Forester, Colorado State Forest Service
 1:10 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Day 3 (September 29)

Advancing Kansas Partnerships. Agencies and organization can describe their programs, how they may partner with others, as well as where they need help from partners.

8:00 a.m. Registration
 8:30 Welcome
 9:00 Role of Joint Ventures, Federal Programs/Agencies, State Programs
 Noon Lunch
 1:00 p.m. Non-Government Organizations, Agricultural Groups, Tribes

**KANSAS SECTION
SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
BOX 303 - MANHATTAN, KS
66505**

Carol Blocksome	President
Dennis Doring	First Vice-President
Charles Lee	2nd Vice-President
Loren Graff	Director
Will Boyer	Director
Sarah Neal	Director
Roger Tacha	Director
Joe Hecht	Secretary-Treasurer
Dwayne Rice	Past President
Pat Broyles	Historian
Walter Fick	Newsletter Editor

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Subscriptions to the Bluestem Bulletin are available to non-SRM members at \$5 per year. Send remittance payable to the Kansas Section, SRM to Walter Fick, Dept. of Agronomy - TH, Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS 66506.

We now have the capability to electronically send the Bluestem Bulletin. If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail please contact me at the above address or at (785) 532-7223 or whfick@ksu.edu.

Please take note of the various opportunities for training and education mentioned in the newsletter. The KLA/K-State Ranch Management Field Days are always informative. The two range management schools will give participants a chance to learn more about good grassland management.

MINUTES - KANSAS SECTION, SRM

President Carol Blocksome called the meeting of the Kansas Section to order at 7:00 p.m. in Independence, KS on May 12th, 2005. The minutes of the October 7th meeting were accepted as published in the April Bluestem Bulletin. Joe Hecht gave the treasurer's report. There is \$8536.36 in the checking account. Walt Fick reported that we may need more excellence in grazing management signs. Walt also reported that there were 455 newsletters distributed, including those sent by email.

Carol reported that Mike Haddock has been developing our web site. Carol asked for any suggestions on the web site. It was suggested to link our web site with the national web site. Dennis Doring gave the membership report. We currently have 90 members for Kansas SRM. Since 2004 we have lost 15 members. Dennis is contacting individuals about memberships. A survey on why people are not attending meetings was also discussed. Dennis will send such a survey.

Dwayne Rice is contacting other states about what they would like on the excellence in grazing management signs. Dwayne was not present, but sent a written report on burning cooperatives. This was discussed in the February 2005 issue of Rangelands. The idea would be to have local producer groups form to help each other in order to increase the amount of fire applied on the land.

Discussion was held about the student affairs and public affairs committees. The question was asked if these committees should continue. It was decided to leave the committees on the books, and reactivate them when there is more interest.

The Kansas Range Youth Camp report was given. There were 24 campers signed up at the time of this meeting. The camp starts the 5th-8th of July.

Carol brought up the idea of a joint meeting with SRM and KAWS.

New resources discussed: "Wildflowers and Grasses of Kansas" by Mike Haddock and "Kansas Grasses" by Clenton Owensby. SRM will purchase 2 of each of these books to be given as prizes for the Kansas Range Youth Camp and Advanced Range Management School. Also discussed donating \$250 for range cage enclosures for the range school.

Meeting was adjourned.

**Submission deadline for the next issue of the
Bluestem Bulletin: November 1, 2005**

Joe Hecht

NATIVE GRASS MANAGEMENT FIELD DAY

MCPHERSON, Kan. — Cattlemen and pasture owners are invited to a “Native Grass Management Field Day” to be held Aug. 15-16 near Kanopolis Reservoir starting with registration Aug. 15 from 8:30 to 9:00 at the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) mixing strip at mile marker 169 on highway 4 west of Marquette. The field day, jointly sponsored by K-State Research and Extension and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), will end at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday.

Registration is due by Aug. 10. Registration forms, along with an agenda, can be picked up at any county or district Extension office, or down-loaded from www.oznet.ksu.edu/mcpherson. Registration fees are \$40 plus \$25 for a registrant’s spouse or youth under 18 if received by Aug. 10. After Aug. 10, the fees are \$50 and \$30 respectively.

Topics of discussion will include rotation grazing systems, indicator plant identification, weed and brush control, fence construction, fencing and leasing legalities, Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) insurance, managing timber along streams, rangeland water quality, stocking rates, spring development, solar water collectors, and burning pastures safely.

Alan Hubbard, Olsburg rancher, will be the guest speaker after the Monday evening steak fry. Other discussion leaders will include Walt Fick, K-State range management specialist; David Kraft, NRCS range conservationist; Chris Tecklenburg, NRCS range specialist; Dwayne Rice, NRCS range specialist; Phil Chegwidan, NRCS district conservationist; Allie Devine, Kansas Livestock Association attorney; Terri Bornholdt, Inman Insurance Agency; Debbie Goard and Jim Strine, Kansas Forest Service; Zeitlow Distributing; Stacie Edgett-Minson, watershed specialist, Dale Ladd, McPherson county Extension agent; and Brad Windholz and Quint Hedberg, host ranchers.

For overnight stays, Kanopolis Reservoir has modern camp ground facilities and motels are available within 20 miles. Interested persons can call Brent Goss, host county Extension agent, at 785-472-4442, or Dale Ladd, McPherson county Extension agent, at 620-241-1523 for more details on the event.

Dale Ladd

KANSAS RANGE YOUTH CAMP

The 44th Annual Kansas Range Youth Camp was held July 5-8, 2005 at the Rock Springs 4-H Camp south of Junction City. A total of 25 high schoolers participated at this year’s camp chaired by Chris Tecklenburg and assisted by 10 other counselors/presenters.

Upon arrival campers became better acquainted as they participated in the Leadership Adventure Course. The remainder of Day 1 consisted of presentations on Rangelands of Kansas, Rangeland Concerns, and Plant Growth/Physiology.

Day 2 found the campers splitting time between the field and classroom. Field activities included topics on soils, range sites, and plant identification. Presentations were made on range condition, stocking rates, animal nutrition, plant-animal interactions, grazing distribution, grazing management tools, and rangeland wildlife.

Most of Day 3 was spent touring the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center near Manhattan, KS and visiting Fort Riley to hear about soil compaction/erosion problems caused by military tank training. Grazing lands and water quality issues were discussed and group presentations of ranch plans were made.

The final morning consisted of the written range management exam and plant identification test. Careers in range management and the High School Youth Forum were discussed and award winners were recognized.



Kansas Range Youth Camp Winners: (left to right): Corbin Knobloch, Jared Nelson, James Ungerer, and Ryan Everett, 1st Place, Clay Center, KS.

RANGE MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

Flint Hills rangeland managers are invited to enroll in an advanced range management school, August 23-25, to be held at Rock Springs Ranch State 4-H Center, south of Junction City. The Flint Hills of Kansas is the last remaining large area of the tallgrass prairie. The management of these lands is of major significance in terms of water quality, wildlife habitat and economy to the individual land owner, the county and the state of Kansas.

Cost of the school is \$75 per person, but a reduced cost of \$50 will be charged for a second person from the same ranch, providing a "team" opportunity, whether that be husband/wife, father/son or owner/manager. The cost will cover lodging, meals, and reference materials. The school is limited to 30 participants with a registration deadline of August 10. To register or request more information, please contact Jeff Davidson, Greenwood County Extension Office, 311 N Main, Eureka KS 67045 or 620-583-7455 or by e-mail jdavidso@ksu.edu

The school is sponsored by the Tallgrass Legacy Alliance, with grant funds from the Flint Hills Tallgrass Initiative. Other sponsors include the Kansas Section of the Society for Range Management, Flint Hills RC&D and Kansas Grazing Land Coalition. The goal of the school is to provide Flint Hills grazing land managers with improved knowledge of how to achieve and maintain a healthy and economical grazing land resource for optimal livestock production.

Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Center is the premier outdoor learning center in the state, with excellent facilities for both classroom and "in the field" instruction. Lodging will be the Leadership Lodge, an upscale "condo" style of accommodation. Topics of discussion at the school include plant identification, grazing systems, stocking rates, plant and animal interactions, water development, range sites and condition, livestock management and nutrition, range burning techniques, goals and

communication and other pertinent topics. An added feature to the school this year will be a "field trip" to the KLA/KSU Ranch Management Field Day at the Mashed O ranch on the first afternoon. Discussion leaders for the school will be Kansas State University and Natural Resources Conservation Service rangeland management specialists.

Jeff Davidson

KLA/K-STATE FIELD DAYS

The Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) and K-State Research and Extension will be hosting three ranch management field days during the month of August. Educational sessions will be tailored to management practices used by the host ranches.

The first field day will be held August 16 at the historic XIT Ranch near Plains. The ranch is owned and operated by Raymond Adams, Jr. and his son, John. Topics include: Opportunities for Owners of Source-Verified Cattle, Management Tips for Controlling Undesirable Plant Species on Native Rangelands, Improving Your Chute-Side Manner, and Rainfall, Runoff...Its Impact on Water Quality.

On August 18, Limestone Springs Ranch near Soldier will host the second field day. The ranch is owned by John Atwater. Attendees will hear again the presentations on source verification and rainfall runoff. Additional topics will include Co-Products as Economical Feedstuffs and Conservation Challenges on Grazing Lands.

The third event will be held on August 23 at the Mashed O Ranch near Council Grove. The ranch is owned by Jean McDonald Deacy and managed by Larry D. Johnson. Topics for this location are Preserving Working Ranchlands for Future Generations, Stocking Rates and Grazing Management in the Flint Hills as well as the presentations on properly applying animal health products and rainfall runoff impacts on water quality.

The field days are supported by Farm Bayer Animal Health and the Farm Credit Associations of Kansas.

All three begin with registration at 3:30 p.m. Registration is free and includes a beef dinner.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- August 15-16 Native Grass Management Field Day, Kanopolis Lake
- August 16, 18, 23 KLA/K-State Ranch Management Field Days
- August 23-25 Advanced Range Management School, Rock Springs 4-H Camp
- September 7-8 Multi-state Sericea Lespedeza Meeting, Beatrice, NE
- September 14 Bressner Pasture Tour, Yates Center
- September 15 Beef Stocker Conference, Manhattan, KS
- September 27-29 Joint Meeting of Kansas Section, SRM with Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams,
Wichita
- October 4 Invasive Species Meeting, Emporia
- February
12-17, 2006 59th Annual SRM Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia