The Road Through Paris
The Worlds Last Best Hope to Avert Climate Disaster?

By Craig Wolfe - Chapter Communications Director

As I begin writing this article to explain the Paris Climate Conference on November 30 – December 11, I must impart to you that you and I and the world are facing a remarkable challenge. The challenge presents to us the stark reality of a possible devastating future, side-by-side with a possible remarkable and phenomenal future. The scary part is that success requires the conscious part of the human race to wake up and take serious action. More on that later.

Let’s get the vocabulary part out of the way. When you dig into the Paris Conference, you will discover that it is also called “COP21/ CMP11.” The first part of that I found an answer for right away, but the second took a half hour of searching. So, these are:

Conference of the Parties (COP)
The supreme body of the Convention. It currently meets once a year to review the Convention’s progress. The word “conference” is not used here in the sense of “meeting” but rather of “association”. The “Conference” meets in sessional periods, for example, the “fourth session of the Conference of the Parties.”

Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP)
The Convention’s supreme body is the COP, which serves as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The sessions of the COP and the CMP are held during the same period to reduce costs and improve coordination between the Convention and the Protocol.

The CMP acronym takes a remarkable transition, no?

I should also let you know that I just returned from Miami where I was trained over three days as an Al Gore Climate Reality Project Leader (CRP). That training hammered home the two very opposite sides of the climate crisis coin. So now that I am a CRP Leader, my goal is to present to folks the very scary side and the very hopeful side of the climate crisis. So, please contact me if your group or organization would like me you present about this, the most critical of topics facing us today.

The bottom line of Paris 2015 is that a new international agreement on climate, applicable to all countries, needs to be achieved. The goal is to keep global warming tem-

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### With your help we can protect the wolf

Wolves are vitally important to maintaining nature’s balance, culling out weak and sick animals to keep populations of elk and deer healthy and in check. The Sierra Club is working to defend wolf populations from continued threats from politicians.

**Lead the pack & JOIN Sierra Club.**

Joining by clicking on the above membership application will help raise money for you Kansas Sierra Club!!
Council Report

64 Chapter Council Delegates Meet in San Francisco

By Yvonne Cather, Council Delegate for the Kansas Chapter

As your Council Delegate and representative to the Annual Meeting, which is typically held in September of each year, I found this year of particular interest and wanted to share with everyone. First of all, at the May Board meeting the Board of Directors seated two new Board members, Steve Ma and Margrete Strand-Rangnes, and welcomed back former President and Board member Allison Chin. Sierra Club members also reelected for second terms Spencer Black and Liz Walsh. At that meeting in May, the Board of Directors held an election of officers that included Aaron Mair becoming the first African American to become the President of Sierra Club. Aaron may be the first African American President amongst all the major environmental groups. This major step forward launches one of the Club’s major objectives of becoming a more inclusive and equitable organization and embraces a broader constituency truly representative and reflective of our population.

The Board is made up of:
- Aaron Mair, 2015-2016 Sierra Club President
- Robin Mann, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Vice President
- Susana Reyes, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Secretary
- Loren Blackford, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Treasurer
- Liz Walsh, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Fifth Officer
- Spencer Black, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Director
- Donna Buell, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Director
- Allison Chin, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Director
- Michael Dorsey, 2015-2016 Director
- Jim Dougherty, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Director
- Chuck Frank, 2015-2016 Director

See Council on page 10
Chapter Calls for Meaningful Monitoring of the Flint Hills Burning

By Craig Volland, Air Quality Chair

This article is derived from our comments to KDHE and EPA Region 7 on KDHE’s annual plan for the ambient air quality monitoring network in Kansas. In April, burn-related ozone air quality standard exceedances were recorded in Chanute, Kansas, and in Omaha, Nebraska. KDHE has rejected our concerns, and we are now waiting to hear from EPA Region 7.

Current Air Monitoring Deficiencies.

Minimal Real-Time Alert Capability. Other than continuous ozone monitors in Topeka and Chanute to the east of area, there are currently no air quality monitors in the vicinity of the Flint Hills physiographic region capable of generating pollutant data for EPA’s Air Now air quality alert system.1

Ozone. Considering the predominantly southerly winds in eastern Kansas, there is currently no coverage between Topeka and the Cedar Bluff monitoring station west of Hayes, a distance of some 230 miles. The Konza Prairie ozone monitor near Manhattan was capable of providing some coverage, but it was shut in 2013.

KDHE’s smoke management efforts are focused on convincing landowners to burn earlier in the year. Traditional practice has called for burning in early to mid-April. While this would help to reduce ozone formation, we have no data to conclude that it would necessarily reduce the emission and downwind secondary formation of PM2.5 fine particulate.

PM2.5. There is no timely coverage of any kind between Kansas City, Kansas, and the Cedar Bluff monitoring station west of Hayes, a distance of some 280 miles. It takes a month or more for results to be reported from filter-based monitors.

At present, we are, in effect, relying on continuous monitors located in Lincoln and Omaha, Nebraska, to indicate whether there is a threat to the health of the general public and to accurately record its scale. Since the plume typically reaches these cities early the next day, it is too late to warn citizens who live in small towns and rural areas in and around the northern Flint Hills of Kansas.

At our May 27 meeting on this subject, some EPA Region 7 and KDHE Bureau of Air personnel expressed skepticism that burning-related PM2.5 exceedances had occurred with significant frequency in the past. They are incorrect. Since 2002 fourteen such exceedances of the current standard of 35 ug/M3 have been recorded.

It is very likely that there have been other instances, but all the PM2.5 monitors in the vicinity of the Flint Hills have been filter-based and operated only every third day. For example, during the 2009 and 2010 burn periods, PM2.5 monitors in the vicinity of the Flint Hills were not operating on the same day that ozone exceedances were recorded in Wichita and Topeka which would have been indicative of heavy burning. Wichita hosts several PM2.5 filter-based monitors, but they all operate on the same day and thus provide no coverage on the intervening two days.

The same thing happened in 2015. The biggest burn day this year was April 10 that caused an ozone exceedance in Chanute on that day and ozone exceedances at two monitors when the plume reached Omaha the next day on April 11. All the relevant filter monitors in Kansas operated on April 9 and then again on April 12. So, just as in 2009 and 2010, all the filter monitors in the vicinity of the Flint Hills were not operating at the time that a PM2.5 exceedance most likely would have occurred.

We are mindful that KDHE has generally complied with EPA rules oriented toward monitoring ambient air in large population centers. The rules also provide for other monitors in areas believed to be relatively close to a violation. But how would KDHE & EPA know this in the vast areas of Northeast and North-Central Kansas that are downwind of the annual burning and rarely, if ever, monitored?
Conclusions

1. The intensive burning of rangeland in the Flint Hills occurs every year and can be reliably predicted to occur during a six-week period from March 15 to May 1.
2. The monitoring network is not designed to monitor a large area-source of dangerous pollutants that the Flint Hills becomes when rangeland is intensively burned on a large scale.
3. The network is not capable of measuring an exceedance of the ozone standard north of Wichita and west of Topeka associated with the Flint Hills burning, and is not capable of consistently warning the public on a timely basis.
4. The network is not capable of measuring on a timely basis an exceedance of the PM2.5 fine particle standard anywhere in the vicinity of the Flint Hills, and thus is not capable of adequately warning the public.
5. The network is not capable of providing public exposure data that would validate any assessment of health impacts in the vicinity of the Flint Hills.
6. The current monitoring plan violates the first principle of the Clean Air Act, i.e. to protect the public health.
7. The current monitoring network fails to provide equal protection to small-town and rural citizens downwind of the burning compared to the residents of large cities with robust monitoring capabilities.

According to the 2010 Kansas Statistical Abstract, some 613,000 people live in 24 Kansas Counties in the Flint Hills or immediately adjacent to the Flint Hills and in the path of the prevailing winds. This does not include Wichita or Sedgwick Co. This population will include children, the elderly, and people suffering from respiratory or cardiovascular disease who are particularly sensitive to air pollutants.

We have asked KDHE to revise the air quality monitoring system to remediate these deficiencies. KDHE states in their draft plan they are considering the location of continuous PM2.5 monitors in Wichita and Topeka. That would be helpful but does not go far enough. Considering the southerly winds typically extant during heavy burn days, continuous ozone and PM2.5 monitors are needed in Manhattan or Junction City to assess the plume moving due north of the burning and in Abilene or Salina to assess any plume moving to the northwest.

Some of the needed measurements could be accomplished with temporary or portable monitors that could be deployed elsewhere for special studies at other times of the year. However, a set of permanent monitors needs to be located in the vicinity of Manhattan and Junction City, which are known to be hit with heavy smoke most years. Some 24,000 students regularly attend Kansas State University in Manhattan. Ft. Riley near Junction City is a major military installation.

EPA is ultimately responsible for the enforcement of the Clean Air Act, and we expect the agency to provide a major share of financing for these improvements as may be appropriate.

Chapter Assists KCK Citizens Protesting Rail Yard Diesel Pollution

By Craig Volland, Air Quality Chair

Over a period of almost two years, a neighborhood group near BNSF’s Argentine Rail Yard in Kansas City, KS monitored for diesel emissions. The project was financed by the non-profit Global Community Monitor, Inc., and the Kresge Foundation, and implemented by the local Diesel Health Project in concert with Argentine/Turner community organizers. Details of the project and the substantial media exposure obtained may be found by clicking on “Recent Posts” and “Archives” here: http://mokanair.com/.

The Kanza Group sponsored some additional tests to better isolate the main sources of emissions. Our analysis of the entire data set led to the conclusion that the main problem is the large locomotive maintenance shop, one of only eleven in the country. Typically, some 50 to 60 locomotives are being tested or being staged for testing outdoors on any particular day. The many old switching locomotives BNSF uses, mostly in the eastern half of the yard, are also a major issue. Our analysis may be found on the Chapter website: http://kansas.sierraclub.org/sector-analysis-of-argentine-yard-diesel-emissions/

The neighborhood group and allies are now working on next steps to get a resolution of the problem. Diesel emissions from rail yards are not directly regulated by the EPA. Instead EPA is relying on a long-term plan to require much cleaner technology as old locomotives are replaced. At the moment BNSF, which is essentially owned by billionaire Warren Buffet, is resisting our requests for action.
Field Notes from the DD…

If Not Us, Who? If Not Now, When?

By Robert F. Sommer, Director of Development, Kansas Chapter

“The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.” —Pope Francis, “Laudato Si”

As people who care deeply about the natural world, we Sierra Club members in Kansas may sometimes wonder if we’re living under cover in the command center for the assault on Planet Earth. David and Charles Koch call Kansas home, as they pump obscene amounts of money into their dream of creating a libertarian dystopia. Governor Brownback claims to want a green economy, while he and the ALEC-driven (American Legislative Exchange Council) state legislature attempt to sabotage any environmental oversight in industry and agriculture.

We also face great cultural and social indifference to the environmental crisis. Eighty-thousand people show up and scream madly for a football team—leaving behind mountains of trash—while a few dozen show up at a Sierra Club meeting to figure out how to solve the greatest crisis mankind has ever faced.

A former professional wrestler recently became an internet sensation for jumping into a pool to save a drowning puppy. Lucky puppy. We do love our dogs. But what about all the other creatures on the planet? According to the World Wildlife Federation, anywhere from 200 to 2,000 species are lost to extinction every year. Those activists around the world who are trying to stem such losses—from Greenpeace to Sea Shepherd to Audubon to the Sierra Club and others—are up against entrenched and powerful government and industrial forces that value wildlife habitat only for the “resources” it may provide. To them, it’s not habitat; it’s a resource. Thus rain forests and boreal forests, the great carbon sinks of the planet, are leveled for tar-sands oil and palm oil.

Even now, the U.S. and other nations are preparing to drill in the Arctic—and fight over the territory itself—in conditions that are almost certain to end in disasters such as those we’ve seen repeated continually, from the Gulf of Mexico to Lac-Mégantic, Canada, to Prince William Sound.

When is enough enough?

David Brower, the Sierra Club’s first Executive Director, had a ready response to that question. There could be “no compromise in defense of Mother Nature,” he said.

One of the Kansas Chapter’s Executive Committee members recently shared with me her frustration, even anger, when people responded to talk about the environmental crisis by saying, “I recycle.”

We can’t bail out the Titanic with teacups. Bill McKibben points out that what we do in our personal lives matters, but we’ve passed the point where such actions alone will turn the tide (literally) of rising seas.

The time to compromise is past. We can’t reason with people who don’t speak the language of reason. And allowing them to have their way while we recycle and buy Priuses will leave us driving emission-free to the recycling center on the road to certain disaster.

The Kansas Sierra Club is led and supported by passionate and energetic people who are determined to guide us toward a society that values the natural world over profit.

But the Kansas Chapter needs support from all of its members.

We need new leaders to step forward and run for our Group and Chapter Executive Committees. We need people to show up at general meetings all over the state, not merely as attendees, but as activists who want to get involved. We need networks of volunteers to monitor city and county meetings. We need young people! We need seniors! We need people of color! We need parents with children who will grow up in the Kochs’ dystopian nightmare if we don’t stop them. We need you!

And yes, we need money.

The climate crisis is here now. It’s not in the future. Please show your support for the Sierra Club’s work in Kansas. Donate securely on-line at Kansas.SierraClub.org or send your generous check made out to The Kansas Sierra Club to:

J. Scott Smith, Treasurer
Kansas Sierra Club
2111 Snowbird Dr.
Manhattan, KS 66502

And join us for a meeting or an outing soon!
Mark Your Calendar and Save the Date!

Sierra Club – Kansas Chapter
2nd Biennial Statewide Conference

“*The Moral Imperative of the Climate Crisis*”

Saturday, March 12, 2016
8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Topeka
4775 SW 21st Street, Topeka, Kansas

Keynote Speaker:

*Professor Donald Worster*

Human domination over nature is quite simply an illusion, a passing dream by a naive species. It is an illusion that has cost us much, ensnared us in our own designs, given us a few boasts to make about our courage and genius, but all the same it is an illusion.

— Donald Worster

Author of

Agenda features special guest speakers, panel discussions, workshops, good food (lunch included!), and good fellowship—all for the purpose of developing a plan of action to address the assault on the environment.

More details to follow … stay tuned!

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**Message from the Southwind Group Chair**

**By Deborah Gafvert**

Helloooo members, I know you are out there, but the questions is… where are you? There are over 1000 of you, and I would like to meet more of you. We can accommodate at least 150 at our monthly program in the Great Plains Nature Center auditorium. If we outgrow our social hour quarters that is a problem I will happily deal with.

Your ExCom works hard to bring a high quality line up of programs every semester, programs which exemplify the core mission of Sierra Club… Explore, Protect, Enjoy. Those who joined us in September experienced truly inspirational guidance from Bob Dixon, Mayor of Greensburg for the past eight years since the near total devastation of his community by an F5 tornado. Mayor Dixon spoke of being “humbly grateful rather than grumbly hateful” for the opportunity to rebuild in the aftermath of destruction. He spoke of how the community invoked a tenet from the Iroquois Nation decreeing that “every deliberation should consider the consequences for the seventh future generation.” Bob described the process of forming consensus between business and environmental advocates to create a truly sustainable community. Our group marveled at photos of the features of LEED Platinum buildings and others constructed to nearly that standard, although the LEED designation was not sought. Southwind Group is planning a field trip to Greensburg sometime during this 2015-2016 season, and members are now more excited than ever after this inspiring presentation. My only regret is that more of you weren’t there to join us.

So go to your calendar and put a big SC on that 2nd Friday of every month. We won’t disappoint you. If you have ideas for programs you would like or know of a speaker who would be awesome, just email me or any ExCom.

Just one final thought while I am up here on my soapbox. We have been running ExCom two or three members shy for about 18 months now. This is an opportunity to be humbly grateful and volunteer! What we really need are people who love outings and would like to coordinate them, including a trip to Greensburg. We have a lot of ideas at ExCom, and we are all glad to pitch in and help promote each other’s suggestions. We have training available for outings leaders. We do have fun, too, and try to operate in a manner that is not intrusive to the rest of your schedule. Yes, we all have real jobs, too. Having said that, if you are interested, do not hesitate to get in touch with any one of us. We would love to hear from you.
The Road Through Paris

Sierra Clubs on both sides of the state line join forces with other enviro groups with a critical and simple message for the world climate negotiations in Paris...

We need a climate deal that’s in line with the imperatives of science and justice. Keep 80% of fossil fuels in the ground and finance a just transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050.

Join Us, Tuesday, October 20
The Discovery Center
4750 Troost Ave, KCMO
7 - 8:30 PM

✓ Why are December negotiations in Paris so critical?
✓ What can each of us do that is meaningful?
✓ How serious is the climate crisis threat to our children’s future?

We will answer these questions and more with compelling video, word, and music.
temperature rise below 2 degrees C, or 3.6 degrees F. (As I learned in Miami, the 2 degrees C was a fairly arbitrary number that was not scientifically arrived at.) The world will come face to face with its future in Paris. Our generation, for the most part, is the first generation to become aware of the very serious nature of the problem, and we are the last generation that has the opportunity to deal with it. Typically, the poorer nations will initially be hit the hardest with the impacts of the climate crisis. Thus, the Paris discussion must solve the injustice of larger nations causing the problem and poorer nations paying the price. But eventually, of course, all of the planet’s species will suffer if no action is taken.

Paris will bring together around 40,000 participants in total - delegates representing each country, observers, and civil society members. It is the largest diplomatic event ever hosted by France and one of the largest climate conferences ever organized. Lots of works has gone on before the Paris Conference, and there has been lots of news preceding it. Pope Francis has made a big climate splash with a focus on the moral imperative to solving the climate crisis. China and the U.S., despite other disagreements, appear to be working together to forge a solution. India, the world’s 3rd largest greenhouse gas emitter, has recently pledged to source 40% of its electricity from renewable and other low carbon sources by 2030.

There will be many first steps in Paris, but scientists know that these steps will need edits to truly stem the tide of the climate crisis. It will be “fun” to watch. So many nations. So many ideas. So much to agree on.

One thing I know, it will require all of government, all of the public, and all of business to move and move quickly. Business and investors have begun to wake up, saying out loud that investments must move away from fossil fuels, setting up a Godzilla-esque confrontation between the world’s most powerful industry and the rest of us that want a habitable planet for the future.

For our part in the U.S., we have several missions, but one stands out in my mind. Get climate deniers out of government… most of whom are carrying the water for the Koch Brothers and the fossil fuel industry. This is our “Pearl Harbor” moment. We had no deniers of the attack on December 7, 1941. But, bizarrely, climate deniers, if they prevail, will lead our children and the unborn to a devastating future. Al Gore in Miami said, “Make every election a climate crisis election.” Yes, I agree. Belief in the climate crisis, I predict (and hope) will surge in the polls, much like the surprising surge in the acceptance of same-sex marriage. I have begun discussions within the Chapter and with the Climate Reality Project to coordinate a multi-election campaign to assist in this surge… even in red Kansas. More to come on that in the future.

The choices

Even before the climate crisis reached our front burners, human activity was leading the way to a 6th Extinction Event. Species and habitat loss are proceeding at break-neck speed, especially when using a geological clock. Now, the climate crisis presents the monstrous icing on the extinction cake. So, we have lots of changes to make for how we treat the Earth. What does the future look like where the oceans have died; where ocean rise displaces billions in our population and economic centers on coasts; where our farmland can no longer grow food; where fresh water from melting snow and ice on the planet has disappeared… needed by 40% of humans as their only source of water. It will not be pretty when civilization at its core breaks down across the planet.

Or, you and I and the planet must work to reject that future. We must demand that we create a world where wind energy, solar energy, hydro energy, and geothermal energy power our planet. We must fight the fossil fuel giants and leave over 80% of our known fossil fuel reserves in the ground. AND, we must remove climate deniers from government so that WE decide our childrens’ future.

We must be active in new ways. Let NONE of us be timid. Let us ALL decide to act.

Craig Wolfe has been an environmental activist since his music days in the 1970’s. He then transitioned to building solar homes, building over 60 passive solar/super insulated homes in the 1980’s. He is now the Communications Director for Kansas Sierra Club, and the President of the Heartland Renewable Energy Association. Oh, yes. He is back to his music with the group Soular. You can see his latest climate crisis music video “The Last Journal Entry” at www.Soular.co.
Jessica Helm, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Director
Steve Ma, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Director
Margrete Strand-Rangnes, 2015-2016 Sierra Club Director
Dean Wallraff, 2015-2016 Director

You can “Meet the Board” online at clubhouse: http://www.sierraclub.org/board/meet#mann

Of interest and strength is our volunteer base, and I took a quote from Director Frank’s summary of the annual meeting: “The Board of Directors heard the demand by volunteers for greater resources and training and recognizes this is a need to make our Club a high performing organization to empower and leverage our grassroots volunteer strength. They are also charged with funding the needs and demands of maintaining Sierra Club’s infrastructure and campaigns as well as supporting our volunteers in a world of limited resources.”

At the joint Board/Council meeting, all of us sat captivated by Aaron Mair’s impassioned President’s report recognizing the great work that has been going on all over the country which is connecting environmental issues with those of social justice. This will impact and elevate our work and create new alliances for the Club.

Michael Brune’s Executive Director report outlined the enormous progress the Club has achieved and what is in store for us in the future.

Mike told us to “Speak truth to Power” and lean into the issues not being talked about with respect!

When questioned about the Club’s political focus, Mike said there are four areas to consider: 1) Money; 2) People; 3) Ideas; and, 4) Quality Candidates.

Mike ended by stating the Club must continue to focus on the ground organizing!

Mike also described the huge obstacles still to overcome. Most notably, he said we must move beyond oil and confront the power of the oil industry! If we want to end the oil industry, we must develop and execute a strategy that will move our energy sector and economy to a fossil free energy grid and transform the transportation sector. As I sat in the audience listening intently, I asked myself, “What does it take to end the largest, wealthiest and most powerful industry in the history of the world? What will it require?”

Peter Martin with The Sierra Club Foundation described how the Forward Fund is supporting projects that are pushing demand for clean energy. The Foundation has committed to the Divest-invest Initiative and in early stages of creating mission aligned investments. Peter announced that this summer The Sierra Club Foundation was featured by the White House as a leader in the clean energy investment area. Under the Foundation’s leadership, The Sierra Club Foundation recently committed $4 million from its endowment to invest in climate solutions strategies.

Bruce Hamilton presented the Strategic Plan to the Council (you can find the link to the entire Strategic Plan presentation on the homepage of clubhouse http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/) and below is a quick summary:

Solve the climate crisis in a way that protects the environment and also is enduring, fair, and equitable.

- Transition to 100 per cent clean energy
- Maximize energy efficiency across all sectors
- Return greenhouse gas concentrations to a sale level below 350 ppm
- Address non-energy emissions such as agriculture and methane
- Protect and rebuild the capacity of forests and other lands
- Steward our natural resources to safeguard them for present and future generations

The Club has adopted three primary goals to promote Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI):

1. Foster an inclusive organizational and workplace culture that nurtures and retains diverse, engaged teams of staff and volunteers.
2. Ensure that DEI competency is an ongoing, welcoming learning cycle across all organizational work.
3. Ensure that our programmatic outcomes reflect our commitment to justice and equity.

New Digital Tools and Platforms are in the works:

- CORE -- our new digital information system can help us improve the management of data.
- AddUp – our new online engagement and campaigning
The Sierra Club’s Wakarusa Group is looking for a few good men and women in the Lawrence area!

Election time is here for the Kansas Sierra Club!

The Sierra Club’s Wakarusa Group, based in Lawrence, requests nominations for members to serve one- or two-year terms on the Wakarusa Group Executive Committee.

Are you looking for a way to become active for the environment?

Do you enjoy outings? meeting new people? developing projects? and supporting political candidates who are friends of the planet?

Then you or someone you know may be right for a leadership role in the Sierra Club’s Wakarusa Group.

Nominees should send contact information and a brief (250 word) statement to Craig Wolfe at info@kansas.sierraclub.org by November 10.

It's okay to nominate yourself—or to convince someone who’s looking for a way to help save the planet to step up and get active.

The Sierra Club is a democratic, member-oriented, grassroots organization.

Many are called—will you or someone you know be the one to answer?

Kansas Chapter Communications Director Craig Wolfe has just been trained by Al Gore's Climate Reality Project. Their mission is to... Catalyze a global solution to the climate crisis by making urgent action a necessity across every level of society.

Craig is therefore available to share with your organization, church or business the most serious challenge facing human kind today.

The Climate Reality Project presentations will discuss two critical points
1. The catastrophic threats posed by the climate crisis to every species on the planet if we take no action.
2. The remarkable progress being made now with wind and solar. If we act now with a strong push to renewable energy sources, we can avoid many of the impacts of the climate crisis.

Contact Craig Wolfe at 913-299-4474 or Info@Kansas.SierraClub.org
Day Hike in the Beautiful Gyp Hills of Barber County
Saturday, October 24th

Hike the mesas, peaks, and canyons in the rugged Gyp Hills of Barber County. Hikers will meet at the house on the Kirkbride Ranch approximately six miles southwest of Medicine Lodge (90 miles southwest of Wichita) at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, October 24th. All Sierra Club members & friends of the environment are invited to participate.

Lunch will be provided for all hikers. Following the early lunch, we will hike into the Gyp Hills. Please RSVP by October 17th. For additional information, detailed driving directions, and reservations, contact Dave Kirkbride, Chapter Outings Chair, at david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org or 316-945-0728.
a picture is worth one thousand words

that's why we at Southwind Group are hosting 'earth matters' art. poetry. performance event

Final Friday Oct 30 7-9pm
Sutton Place 230 E. William
Wichita

your earth message creations needed
environmental message any medium
3 prizes: adult.student.people's pick
artists may sell their works
reserve your spot
contact Deborah, dsgafvert@gmail.com

Sierra Club at Mother Earth News Fair
By Lori Lawrence

Kansas Sierra Club Has a Booth at the Mother Earth News Fair in Topeka on October 24th & 25th!

So, come and see us at the Mother Earth News Fair the last weekend in October. We have BIG plans made and there will be lots to see! The Fair is at the Kansas Expo Centre, One Expocentre Dr., Topeka, KS 66612.

The Fair features hundreds of booths, lots of demonstrations, many vendors and plenty to occupy you and your family. You can also come in FREE if you volunteer to help at our booth!

The times are Saturday, October 24th 9 am - 7 pm and Sunday, the 25th 9 am - 5 pm. If you would like to take a 2 hour shift at the fair, please sign up here: http://goo.gl/forms/HSWgY9LbX3

If you don't want to volunteer then please just come and see us! If you have never been to a Mother Earth News Fair before be ready for the best day of your life! We will be selling wall and engagement calendars so plan to get yours there. Here is the site to get your wristband passes for only $20 if you order early: http://www.motherearthnewsfair.com/kansas/. Also check this site for a full listing of all the booths, speakers and demonstrations.

Contact Lori Lawrence for more information on the Kansas Sierra Club booth at lawrencelorid@gmail.com.

See you in Topeka!!
Can Bill Gates Help Us Eat As Though The Earth Matters?

By Judy Carman

And not just Bill Gates, but also Google co-founder Sergei Brin, Twitter co-founder Biz Stone, and many others. These wealthy individuals are willing to invest in companies that could help people transition to foods that are being developed to help end environmental devastation. They are investing millions in companies such as Beyond Meat, Impossible Foods, Hampton Creek, Modern Meadow, and Muufri. These visionary companies are using modern technology to create plant-based milk that tastes like animal milk, plant-based meat with the taste and texture of animal meat, and pea-derived eggs that taste like eggs. These are not your basic bean burgers and soy milks. These are foods that are mimicking meat, eggs, and dairy so well that billionaires are investing in them and expecting them to succeed.

Josh Balk, co-founder of Hampton Creek, states, “Many socially conscious investors, including high-profile multi-billionaires, are seeking business solutions to climate change, food insecurity, disease, and other serious global problems.” They believe, says Balk, that “moving to a plant-based system is vital to that effort.” They also believe that they are offering something different from vegan brands like Tofurkey and Gardein. They have developed and continue to create foods that mimic the taste of animal products so well that most people cannot tell the difference.

As we’ve discussed in this column over the years, animal agriculture is a major driving force behind deforestation; overuse of water; air, water and soil pollution; erosion; species extinction; habitat destruction; and human starvation and disease. These investors want to do something about all that. But they, along with all of us, have realized that the progress we’ve made so far is too slow if we are to stop the rampant destruction of this precious planet upon which we all depend. The U.S. population is about 7% vegan and vegetarian. That is up from a decade ago, but the numbers are still too low.

The next level of plant-based food—making everyone happy, not just vegans.

So these companies are taking the plant-based solution to the next level by creating food that tastes like animal foods to omnivores. There has been a reluctance to try “vegan” foods because they seem too different and not what we are used to.

The idea of not having actual meat as the main course has kept many an omnivore from taking the plunge. But with these new foods available, we can truly eat as though the earth matters and not miss the taste, texture, or appearance of meat, milk, and eggs. In addition to Beyond Meat and the others creating new versions of plant-based alternatives that taste like animal products, some giant food companies such as Pinnacle Foods (producer of Birdseye) are seeing that plant-based foods are rapidly going mainstream. They are buying such established vegan companies as Gardein and getting them into a much broader range of stores. As these companies succeed and people agree that they can indeed enjoy meals of only plant-based meat and radically cut down on their footprint, we will begin to see real healing taking place.

Mat Thomas, author of “Green Giants,” (Veg News, September-October, 2015) quotes David Benzaquen, founder of PlantBased Solutions: “I don’t care whether more people identify as vegans or not, as long as animals aren’t killed, the environment is saved, and fewer people suffer from disease…”

Shorter showers aren’t enough.

For decades now, people of conscience have been riding bikes and buses, taking shorter showers, composting, using their own bags at grocery stores, and doing as many things as possible to make a difference, but it obviously hasn’t been enough to turn the tide. Podcaster Rich Roll comments that “When it comes to conservation and ecological responsibility, the dialog generally focuses on fossil fuels. A big issue, of course; and worthy of our attention. But here’s a truth that all too often gets quietly swept under the rug: the deleterious environmental impacts of animal agriculture dwarf the impacts of fossil fuel demand in every single category across the board.”

(Editors note: While animal agriculture is a serious contributor, I am suspect of this statement’s accuracy.)

In one of his podcasts he interviews Keegan Kuhn and Kip Anderson, the makers of the documentary “Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret,” which has now gained Leonardo DiCaprio as an Executive Producer. DiCaprio has helped get the film on Netflix because he believes everyone on earth should see it. So if you have Netflix, please take the time to watch it, and if you don’t, you can purchase it at cowspiracy.com.

“Cowspiracy may be the most important film made to inspire saving the planet.”

Loui Psihoyos, Director of “The Cove”

This thought provoking film challenges us all to understand that there is something huge, transformative, and powerful we can each do to heal the earth. And that something takes less effort than riding a bike to work—it is simply to stop eating animals and their eggs and milk. Now that these new companies are producing plant-based meat, dairy and eggs that are indis-
tistinguishable from the products that are taken from suffering animals, it is easier than ever to take this next important step and eat as though the earth matters.

The heart of veganism is the passionate desire to do no harm and as much good as possible in every area of life, not just in what we eat. As such, it includes dedication to all environmental and social justice causes. When we look deeply at all the justice movements, we see the same desire. It is the desire to stop the violent and relentless destruction caused by profit and power-driven companies devoid of ethics. Each one of us must question everything we’ve been taught and even our own thoughts. In that way, we can stop our own participation in and support of these destructive companies. By boycotting animal agriculture, we stand in solidarity with nature, animals, and all people. We could never take enough short showers to equal the impact of our switching to a plant-based diet. Eating as though the earth matters just got a whole lot easier, so let’s get started. There’s no time to waste.

© 2015, Judy Carman, M.A., is author of “Peace to All Beings: Veggie Soup for the Chicken’s Soul” and co-author of “The Missing Peace: The Hidden Power of our Kinship with Animal”; 2014 winner of the Henry Spira Grassroots Animal Activist award; and owner of a truck and a car powered by used veggie oil and house powered by solar. Her primary websites are circleofcompassion.org and peacetoallbeings.com.

You can begin reducing your Carbon Footprint... right in your own kitchen!!


By Mike Miller

One of the major impediments to environmental progress is the “anti-science” mindset of many elected officials. The effect is profound in the issues of climate change and evolution. Only about 40% of adults in the U.S. accept evolution – far lower than in Europe and Japan; the percent in Kansas is probably lower. This excellent book addresses the evolution controversy.

Author Bill Nye is a mechanical engineer and is best known as Bill Nye The Science Guy in programs on PBS and the Discovery Channel. The impetus for this book was a recent debate between the author and Kenneth Ham, an Australian born evangelist whose organization, Answers in Genesis, developed the Creation Museum in Kentucky. Ham is a Bible literalist, apparently assigning an age of 6000 years to Earth. In the flood described in Genesis all species perished except for 7000 pairs of animals and 8 people on board a 500 foot-long ark.

Nye begins by stating that evolution working through the Law of Natural Selection is the most fundamental principle in biology. Acting over billions of years the environment selects which random genetic variants survive. Rejecting the Law of Natural Selection is akin to rejecting Newton’s laws of motion.

In Chapter 2, Nye lays out his major disagreements with Ham. If all animals not on the ark perished in the flood all at once, why are there separate geologic strata with distinctive sets of fossils rather than one big layer with all the animals that perished during the flood? Where did all the plants come from if none were on the ark? If there are 680,000 countable layers of compressed snow in ice cores, how can the earth only be 6000 years old? How do you account for bristle cone pines being well over 6000 years of old? How do you account for the 16 million species alive today if there were only 7000 animals on the ark 4000 years ago? This would require finding 11 new species every day since the flood ended. This is only a sampling of Nye’s arguments. For example, the 98.8% identity between the genes of humans and chimpanzees is discussed in Chapter 33. In the rest of the book, Nye lays out the many aspects of evolution with particular emphasis on microbiology. Some of the chapters I found interesting were: 6: On the Origin of Evolution; 11: The Tree of Life or is it a Bush; 20: What Good is Half a Wing; 26: Antibiotic Drug Resistance – Evolution Strikes Back; 33: Is the Human Species Still Evolving; 34: Astrobiologically Speaking – Is Anyone There; 35: The Spark that Started it All; and 36: A Second Genesis – of Life.

This is a very informative book. At 296 pages it is somewhat lengthy but the organization into short chapters enhances its readability. Nye is a clever, witty writer and makes this book a fun read.
Chapter & Group Leaders

Groups are the local body of the Kansas State Chapter

Chapter Executive Committee
Officers, Committee Chairs
*Elected ExCom member; **Appointed ExCom member, ***Group Representative to Chapter, ****Officer/Committee Chair, or Contractor

Yvonne Cather*, Chair, Council Delegate, (316) 522-4741, yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org
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Gary Anderson***, PAC Treasurer, Topeka Group Rep, (785) 464-5800, gary.anderson09@gmail.com
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Lori Lawrence***, Southwind Group Rep, (316) 688-1484, lawrencelori@gmail.com
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Bob Sommer****, Director of Development, 816-889-1100, bob.sommer09@gmail.com
Craig Volland****, CAFO Chair, Trade Chair, Agriculture Chair, Air Quality Chair, (913) 788-7336, volland@kansas.sierraclub.org
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John Neuberger*, Air Quality Chair, (913) 492-1723, jneuberger@kuinc.edu
Sarita Singh*, Political Chair, (913) 563-4437, sarita888@hotmail.com
Craig Wolfe*, Auction Chair, Communications Chair, Program Chair, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org

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Deborah Gafvert*, Chair, (316) 733-5102, dsgafvert@gmail.com
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Lori Lawrence*, Chapter/Group Rep, (316) 688-1484, lawrencelori@gmail.com

Topeka Group
Gary Anderson*, Chair, Program Chair, Chapter Group Rep, (785) 246-3229, gianprouser1963@gmail.com
Bill Cutler*, Secretary, Treasurer, (785) 379-9756, spudspa@yahoo.com
Ramon Powers*, ExCom Member, (785) 224-9225, ronpowers@ks.gog.com
Anita Frank*, Conservation Chair, (785) 253-3505, afrank16@cox.net
Helen Woerner*, ExCom Member, (785) 253-4010, woernerhelen1@gmail.com
Paul Post*, Membership Chair, Outings Chair, (785) 554-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com
Duncan Whitlter*, ExCom Member, (785) 234-6819, duncan888@aol.com

Wakarusa Group - New ExCom!!
Travis Robinett*, Chair, Outings Coordinator, arrowhead.t@aal.org
Caleb Hall*, Vice-Chair, caleb.hall.ch@gmail.com, (913) 568-1785
Karim Pagel-Meiners*, Treasurer, (785) 841-4258, kpagelmeiners@earthlink.net
Courtney Schwartzbeek*, Secretary, 316-461-5830, schwartzbeekcourt@gmail.com
Olga Khakova*, Chair, olga.khakova@gmail.com
Randy Kidd*, Executive Committee member, drrkidd@gmail.com

Flint Hills Group (Manhattan Area)
Carol Barta*, Chair, Newsletter Editor, Program Chair, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net
Scott Smith*, Treasurer, Chapter Group Rep, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net

Kanza Group (Kansas City)
Elaine Giessel*, Group Chair, Water Quality Chair, (913) 888-8517, elaine.giessel@kansas.sierraclub.org
Gail Shafton*, Vice Chair, Program Chair, Publicity Chair, (913) 909-3127, gailshafton.com
Richard Voss*, Treasurer, (913) 888-8517, vossrico@everestkc.net

Fall 2015
General public is welcome to attend

Kanza Group (Kansas City)
Tuesday, October 20, 6:30 pm
The Road Through Paris
6:30 pm - Meet, Greet, and Gather
7:00 pm - Sierra Clubs on both sides of the state line join forces with other enviro groups with a critical and simple message for the world climate negotiations in Paris... We need a climate deal that's in line with the imperatives of science and justice. Keep 80% of fossil fuels in the ground and finance a just transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050. Why are Dec negotiations in Paris so critical? What can each of us do that is meaningful? How serious is the climate crisis threat to our children's future? We will answer these questions and more with compelling video, word, and music.
Contact - Craig Wolfe, 913-299-4474, info@kansas.sierraclub.org
Where - Discovery Center, 4750 Troost Ave, KCMO

Kanza Group (Kansas City)
Tuesday, Nov 10, 6:45 pm
It's Global Frackdown Month
6:45 pm - Meet, Greet, and Gather.
7:00 pm - Join us for an update on the impact fracking is having on the health of the Kansas prairie and what it can do to your health.
Where - Where - Overland Park Lutheran Church, 7810 W. 79th St. Directions at www.kansas.sierraclub.org/kanzadirections.htm
Contact - Gail Shafton, (913) 909-3127, gail@shafton.com

Kanza Group (Kansas City)
Saturday, December 12, 6:30 pm
Winter Solstice Family Festival.
Bring the whole family. Potluck dinner. StoneLion Puppet Theatre for the kids!! Awards for outstanding volunteers
Where - Where - Overland Park Lutheran Church, 7810 W. 79th St. Directions at www.kansas.sierraclub.org/kanzadirections.htm
Contact - Elaine Giessel 913-888-8517 ecos@everestkc.net

Southwind Group (Wichita)
Friday, October 9, 6:30 pm
Images of Rural Kansas.
6:30 pm - Social hour begins. Soup and Salad will be available. Please bring your own place setting.
7:30 pm - Photographer, Neil Marcus, will present beautiful pictures of rural Kansas.
Where - Great Plains Nature Center, 6232 East 29th St N, Wichita, KS
Contact - Deborah Gafvert 316-733-5102 dsgafvert@gmail.com

Southwind Group (Wichita)
Friday, November 13, 6:00 pm
Nature Authors.
6:00 pm - Instead of $5 food donation we are asking all members to bring a small appetizer, non-drippy, non gooey finger foods. NO NEED to pack in/out own place setting for this one meeting.
7:00 pm - This is a special program collaboration with Great Plains Nature Center.

Topeka Group
Tuesday, Oct 27, 6:30 pm.
Kansas River Water Trail Development.
6:30 pm - “Meet, Greet and Gather”
7:00 pm - Kansas River Water Trail Development with Roger Wolfe, Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. Roger is in charge of the Kansas River Trail development and recently attended a national meeting of river trail stakeholders. He will share information about our National River Trail.
Where - Topeka Shawnee County Public Library Marvin Auditorium 101C, 1515 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS.
Contact - Gary Anderson, (785) 246-3229; gjanderson1963@hotmail.com

Topeka Group
Friday, December 4, 6:30 pm.
Holiday Dinner at Tup Tim Thai Restaurant
6:30 pm - Meet and Greet
7:00 pm - We will meet at 6:30 pm and have dinner at 7 pm. Come join the Topeka Group members to celebrate the year and the holidays. (Dinner and beverages are no-host.)
Where - Tup Tim Thi Restaurant 220 SW 29th, Topeka
Contact - Gary Anderson, (785) 246-3229; gjanderson1963@hotmail.com
Below is the combined list of all outings by the Kansas Chapter and Groups. Please contact the outing leader listed after the description by phone or e-mail before attending any of these activities. For trips requiring physical exertion, leaders need to know your ability and condition. Sierra Club policy also requires participants to sign a liability waiver or acknowledgement of risk prior to departing the trailhead. **Outings organizers have a Meetup webpage for the latest outings updates at:** [http://www.meetup.com/KC-Sierra-Club-Outings/](http://www.meetup.com/KC-Sierra-Club-Outings/). Outings are also listed at [http://kansas.sierraclub.org/outings/](http://kansas.sierraclub.org/outings/).

**Sat, Oct 10, to Sun, Oct 11., Thomas Hart Benton. Women’s Backpacking Trip on the Pigeon Roost Trail.**
Chantal Hoffecker 816-665-5841 positively_radiant@hotmail.com. Join us for this moderate hike on the Pigeon Roost Trail, a scenic 8.5 mile loop on the south shore of Beaver Lake near Rogers, Arkansas (about 4 hours from KC). Some ascents & descents but no scrambling or real ruggedness. This is a dog-friendly trip so bring a pooch if you like! We’ll drive down Sat morning and hike in to the backcountry campsites, arriving by late afternoon. On Sun we’ll hike out and have lunch at nearby War Eagle Mill before heading back to KC. $5 donation requested.

**Sat, Oct 10, 9:00 AM. Topeka. Canoe/Kayak Float, Kaw River, KS.**
Paul Post 785-354-1972 paulpost@paulpost.com. Tim Cross 785-842-2167 tecross3@gmail.com. Experience the natural beauty of the upper Kaw River on this float with the Sierra Club and Friends of the Kaw. We will do a leisurely 6-hour paddle from Wamego, KS to Bellvue, KS. Start time 10:00 a.m. 2-person kayak rentals available from Friends of the Kaw riverkeeper@kansasriver.org. $3 donation requested for Sierra Club. $3 donation requested for FOK. Friends of the Kaw will rent canoes - $30 per person ($60 for a boat). We need to know by Sat, Oct 3, if you need to rent a canoe from Friends of the Kaw, as a minimum of 20 people (10 boats rented) is required. Co-Leaders: Tim Cross tecross3@gmail.com and Paul Post paulpost@paulpost.com. Advance registration is required, as Friends of the Kaw needs a minimum number of 20 people (10 boats). Please let one of the leaders know if you plan to participate by Oct 3 so that we can relay the information to Friends of the Kaw. Or, you can register through the Meetup link shown below.

**Sat, Oct 11, 12:00 PM (Time Tentative). Thomas Hart Benton. Fabulous Fall Tree Colors, Loose Park, Kansas City, MO.**
Eileen McManus 816-523-7823 eileen4250@sbcglobal.net. The colors of red, yellow, orange and purple will help us identify trees. We will also look at other characteristics of leaves such as shape, composition and acorns. $3 donation requested.

**Fri, Oct 23, to Sun, Oct 25., Wakarusa. Missouri Wilderness Backpack Series, Rockpile Mountain/Mingo Wilderness, Fredericktown, MO.**
Cindy Spears 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. Derrick Mahoney 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. This is the first in a series of backpacking trips to explore the wilderness areas of Missouri in. We will visit the Mingo Wilderness Area and backpack in Rockpile Mountain Wilderness. $10 donation requested.

**Sat, Oct 24, 10:00 AM (Time Tentative). South Wind. Southwind Group - Gyp Hills Hike.**
Dave Kirkbride 316-945-0728 david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org. All Sierra Club members and friends are invited to join our annual Gyp Hills Hike on Oct 24th. The topography of the area is both beautiful and unique and is located in Barber County which is about an hour and a half southwest of Wichita. We will hike for approximately five hours. We will gather at the ranch house at 10:00 a.m. Participants should bring water and snacks. Layered clothing and jackets are recommended. A $5.00 donation to the outings program will be requested. For information and RSVP, contact Dave Kirkbride. RSVP is required.

**Fri, Nov 06, to Sun, Nov 08., Thomas Hart Benton. Women's Backpack Buffalo River Trail: Boxley to Ponca, AR.**
Chantal Hoffecker 816-665-5841 positively_radiant@
Sierra Club Outings

General public is welcome to participate

General public is welcome to participate

Sierra Club Outings

General public is welcome to participate

hotmail.com. Join us for a scenic 11.1 point to point trail that winds along streams, bluffs and hillsides, giving views of both the Buffalo National River and the historic Boxley Valley. Watch for all kinds of wildlife in the Valley, especially the majestic Elk that graze the open fields along this trail. High atop Boxley Valley on the trail lie several backcountry camping spots and numerous outstanding views. Moderate skill level required. $10 donation requested.

Sat, Nov 07, to Sun, Nov 08, Thomas Hart Benton. Canoe & Kayak the Missouri River, mid-Missouri.
Terry DeFraties 913-385-7374 theerustbucket@aol.com. Enjoy the wide Missouri in this quiet season on a joint trip with the Eastern Missouri Group (St. Louis).

Sat, Nov 14, 9:15 AM. Kanza. Perry Lake Hiking Trail Maintenance, Perry, KS.
Steve Hassler 913-707-3296 hassler@planetkc.com. Join us for our semiannual trail maintenance adventure on this 28-mile loop trail halfway between Lawrence and Topeka. Bring lunch, water, snacks, work gloves, and if you have them, a lopper or bow saw. Weather postponement date is Nov. 21.

Fri, Dec 11, to Sun, Dec 13, Wakarusa. Missouri Wilderness Backpack Series, Devil’s Backbone Wilderness, Pottersville, MO.
Cindy Spears 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. Derrick Mahoney 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. This is the third in a series of backpacking trips to explore the wilderness areas of Missouri in. We will backpack the trails within the wilderness. $10 donation requested.

Sat, Dec 19, to Mon, Dec 21, Wakarusa. Missouri Wilderness Backpack Series, Paddy Creek Wilderness, Licking, MO.
Derrick Mahoney 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. Cindy Spears 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. This is the second in a series of backpacking trips to explore the wilderness areas of Missouri in. We will backpack the 18 miles of trails within the wilderness. $10 donation requested.
Deadline for the next issue is December 10

www.kansas.sierraclub.org

Calendar of Events

Summary of all Kansas Chapter Events

Below is a listing of all General Meetings, Outings, and Committee Meetings for the Kansas Chapter and Groups. For specific information, see General Meetings page 17 and Outings page 18. For the latest update on events, go to http://kansas.sierraclub.org/calendar/

Fri, Oct 02, to Sun, Oct 04., Kanza. Biking and Camping on the Katy Trail, near Columbia, MO. Melissa LeSage 913-219-6941 jmfamily76@hotmail.com

Fri, Oct 02, 7:00 PM. 000-Non Club Sponsor Social Event. First Fri Alternative Film - Merchants of Doubt. Jane Byrnes 316-644-4640 urbanejane@cox.net

Sat, Oct 03, 10:00 AM. 000-Non Club Sponsor Activist Event. EcoFest. Stuart Bolt 316-682-4722 stuart.bolt@cox.net

Fri, Oct 09, 6:30 PM. South Wind Group Club Support Event. Southwind General Meeting - Images of Rural Kansas. Deborah Gafvert 316-733-5102 dsgafvert@gmail.com


Sat, Oct 10, 9:00 AM. Topeka. Canoe/Kayak Float, Kaw River, KS. Paul Post 785-354-1972 paulpost@paulpost.com. Tim Cross 785-842-2167 tecross3@gmail.com

Sun, Oct 11, 12:00 PM (Time Tentative). Thomas Hart Benton. Fabulous Fall Tree Colors, Loose Park, Kansas City, MO. Eileen McManus 816-523-7823 eileen4250@sbcglobal.net

Tues, Oct 27, 7:00 PM. Topeka Group Club Support Event. Topeka Group Meeting - Kansas River Water Trail Development. Gary Anderson 785-246-3229 ganderson1963@hotmail.com

Fri, Oct 30, to Sun, Nov 01., Wakarusa. Missouri Wilderness Backpack Series, Bell Mountain Wilderness, Potosi, MO. Derrick Mahoney 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. Cindy Spears 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com

Fri, Oct 30, 7:00 PM. South Wind Group Social Event. Southwind - Earth Matters Art & Poetry Slam. Deborah Gafvert 316-733-5102 dsgafvert@gmail.com

Wed, Nov 04, 6:30 PM. South Wind Group Club Support Event. Southwind ExCom Meeting. Deborah Gafvert 316-733-5102 dsgafvert@gmail.com

Fri, Nov 06, to Sun, Nov 08., Thomas Hart Benton. Women’s Backpack Buffalo River Trail: Boxley to Ponca, AR. Chantal Hoffercker 816-665-5841 positively_radiant@hotmail.com

Sat, Nov 07, to Sun, Nov 08., Thomas Hart Benton. Canoe & Kayak the Missouri River, mid-Missouri. Terry DeFrates 913-385-7374 theerustbucket@aol.com


Sat, Nov 14, 9:15 AM. Kanza. Perry Lake Hiking Trail Maintenance. Perry, KS. Steve Hassler 913-707-3296 hassler@planetkc.com

Fri, Dec 04, 6:30 PM. Topeka Group Social Event. Topeka Group Holiday Dinner. Gary Anderson 785-246-3229 ganderson1963@hotmail.com

Fri, Dec 11, to Sun, Dec 13., Wakarusa. Missouri Wilderness Backpack Series, Devil's Backbone Wilderness, Pottsville, MO. Cindy Spears 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com. Derrick Mahoney 785-845-5793 derrickncindy@gmail.com

Sat, Dec 12. Winter Solstice Family Festival. Elaine Giesel, 913-888-8517, ecos@everestkc.net


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