Election 2.0 Update

KARIN PAGEL-MEINERS, CHAIR, ELECTION COMMITTEE

Dear Kansas Chapter Sierra Club Members!

Election 2.0 is underway! As announced in the March Waypoints the Kansas Chapter Executive Committee made the decision to redo the 2020 Election for many reasons:

- Shipping delays over holidays
- Shipping delays because of changes with the Post Office
- Members received ballots after the election date had passed
- Trouble with visibility of electronic ballots

The Kansas Sierra Club Election Committee and Executive Committee are committed to offering a fair and democratic election with at least 4 weeks to vote.

You should have received an email with a link to your digital ballot on Monday, March 22nd with the subject line: “VERY IMPORTANT!! Your 2020 Kansas Chapter and Group ExCom Election 2.0 Ballots Enclosed.” This is your new 2020 Kansas Sierra Club ballot. PLEASE vote! Your first vote will not count. Please note that your email includes your Sierra Club membership number. You will need to know your membership number to complete the online ballot.
Those members who are signed up for paper mail-in ballots should receive them soon. Look for a sky-blue colored ballot in your mail delivery.

We need to receive both the digital and the mail-in ballots by 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 7, 2021, so that we can count them on Saturday, May 8, 2021.

We value your voice and participation in our election and we appreciate your ongoing support of and engagement in Sierra Club.

If you have questions about the election, please feel free to contact us at: karin.pagelmeiners@kansas.sierraclub.org.

Thank you for voting!

Karin Pagel-Meiners, Chair
Election Committee
She/Her

Stuart Bolt, Member
Election Committee
He/Him

Janet Lhuillier, Member
Election Committee
She/Her

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in this ISSUE

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chapter action

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Kansas Chapter Adopts Position on Coyote Hunting
ELAINE GIESSEL, CONSERVATION CHAIR

In March, the Kansas Chapter of the Sierra Club adopted a position statement opposing the use of enhanced technology, including night-vision and thermal imaging equipment and artificial lights, for the recreational hunting of coyotes.

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hunting of coyotes and urging the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT) to ban their use.

People’s Hearing Calls Upon Evergy for Just & Clean Energy Transition

BEYOND COAL CAMPAIGN - KANSAS

More than 80 attendees and 28 Speakers offered over 2 hours of valuable input on Evergy’s energy future as the utility prepares its long-term plans in both Kansas and Missouri.

KC Metro: Become a Climate Action Plan Ambassador

ELAINE GIESSEL, KANZA GROUP, CONSERVATION CHAIR

News Releases - MARC
On March 23, the Mid-America Regional Council’s board of directors voted to adopt the Climate Action Plan, a voluntary framework to guide and align local action in building sustainability, resilience and social equity. Here’s how to become a climate ambassador in your community.

KS 3rd Congressional District Action Item: Keep Fossil Fuels in the Ground

ELAINE GIESSEL, CONSERVATION CHAIR
Kanza Group organized a district-wide effort to enlist Congresswoman Sharice Davids to tell President Biden to stop the Enbridge Line 3 pipeline through Minnesota.

Full story

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kansas sierra club
LEGISLATIVE NEWS

As the Kansas Legislature finalizes its business for the 2021 Session, a number of environmental bills - both good and bad - were debated and passed. Chapter Lobbyist, Zack Pistora, covers it all in this recent edition of the KS Legislative News.

Full story

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reports & updates

A Historical View of Conservation
HANK GUARISCO, CONSERVATION CHAIR, WAKARUSA GROUP

Same Old Song? Sierra Club works hard today to protect wildlife from human predators. Environmentalists faced the same issues in the 1930s.

Full story
Climate Change is Back at EPA
HAROLD DRAPER

The EPA in March 2021 relaunched a webpage dedicated to climate change that had gone dark for four years under President Trump.

Full story

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**group news & events**

**chapter-wide events**
All events on Zoom and open to everyone!

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**The Homegrown National Park project**
Friday, April 9, 7:00 pm
Host: Southwind | ZOOM LINK

Krista Dahlinger with the Kansas Native Plant Society will tell us about plants that are native to our area! Check the Facebook Event Page for all the details and to ask questions. Join us on Zoom to meet Krista and ask questions so you can plant your own National Park.

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**Legislative Update with Zack Pistora**
Tuesday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Host: Topeka | RSVP HERE

Chapter Lobbyist Zack Pistora will speak about important environmental legislation being considered in the State House. Join us to learn about the Lobby Corps and how you can help influence your elected officials on key issues. RSVP on the Chapter calendar to obtain the Zoom link. Social time at 6:45 pm; program will start at 7:00
Storytelling for a Climate-Changed World
04/13 6:30 pm social time; 6:45 program
Host: Kanza | RSVP HERE

Shari Bell, Regional Representative of Climate Central, will talk about storytelling for a climate-changed world, with a focus on efforts to educate TV meteorologists, journalists, and city planners. Social time at 6:30; program at 6:45. RSVP on the Chapter calendar to get link; click on the Calendar date for details about our speaker.

SAVE THE DATE
National Resources Conservation Service
May 11, 7:00 PM on Zoom
Host: Kanza

Tim McCoy, recently elected to the Kanza ExCom, will present on the financial and technical assistance programs available to private landowners through the U.S. Department of Agriculture to improve soil, create wildlife habitat and protect wetlands and forests.

group events
News and events for specific locations

WAKARUSA
Last Days of Wakarusa Fundraiser: Talking with Teens and Tweens About Climate Change
January 29, 2021 through April 30, 2021

Young adult literature author and Wakarusa Group member, Randi Hacker, has just published a booklet for teens and tweens entitled, Life on a Different Planet – A Climate Crisis Handbook. The publisher, Home Planet Books, has launched its First 100 Days Project,
a plan aimed at benefiting readers, independent booksellers, and global climate change non-profit organizations. Says Randi Hacker: “Home Planet Books supports President Biden’s plan to hit the ground running on Climate Change in his first 100 days of office. So, between January 20, 2021 and April 30, 2021, in partnership with local bookstores around the country, we will donate a percentage of the profit from the sale of each of our books to local organizations that support climate crisis activism.” For every booklet purchased through Lawrence’s independent bookstore, the Wakarusa Group will get a donation! What a deal! Thank you, Randi!!

explore outdoors

featured waypoint:
Benedictine Bottoms Wildlife Area
Submitted by Harold Draper
An important component of the Missouri River Recovery Program, authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, is the Bank Stabilization and Navigation Program Wildlife Mitigation Project. This involves land purchase and restoration of the functions of a free-flowing river system. The first land purchased was at Benedictine Bottoms, Atchison County, Kansas.

April 2021 update on COVID-19 and Sierra Club Outdoors
April 2021 update on Sierra Club Outdoors’ response to the COVID-19 pandemic, both nationally and locally.
Show us your favorite Kansas nature or wilderness area! Submit a small description and a photo (if possible!) to communications@kansas.sierraclub.org

What are Waypoints?

Waypoints: noun. A stopping place on a journey; an endpoint of the leg of a course, especially one whose coordinates have been generated by a computer.

Waypoints is the monthly newsletter of the Kansas Sierra Club; content is submitted by our members and supporters. Articles may be edited for style and content or may be rejected at the discretion of the editors: Elaine Giessel, elaine.giessel@kansas.sierraclub.org and Mimi Moffat, mimi.moffat@kansas.sierraclub.org. Layout design by Erin DeGroot, communications@kansas.sierraclub.org.

Sierra Club Kansas Chapter

Sierra Club has gone digital
Sign up today to receive our communications.

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