

Dyck Arboretum of the Plains

PrairieWindow

to promote through education and stewardship, the conservation and use of plants native and adaptable to Kansas



Spring 2017 Vol. 27 No 1

Symposium: Living the Land Ethic in Kansas

by Brad Guhr, Education and Prairie Restoration Coordinator

"The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land." – Aldo Leopold

On Saturday, March 18, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains will host its 11th annual spring educational symposium focused on living a Kansas land ethic. Collectively, "the land" in Kansas represents an immense array of natural resources for which we are very fortunate to be temporary stewards. Appreciating the value of these resources, educating ourselves about their complexities and vulnerabilities, learning how to be good caretakers, and making it a priority to pass them along in good shape to future generations should be important to all Kansans.



Prairie and sky at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve



Our expert speakers will first tell the story of the rich elements of soil, vegetation, and wildlife that make up our prairie landscape. Then, seasoned practitioners will tell their stories of how we as humans are such important stewards for carrying forward both natural and human resources. We will finish with a message of ingenuity, sustainability, and hope.

Visit our website for scheduling and speaker details. The early bird fee is \$40 for Arboretum members and \$50 for non-members (increases to \$50/\$60 March 10), and includes a full day of presentations, continental breakfast, and lunch. RSVP deadline is March 15 (620-327-8127 or arboretum@hesston.edu). This event is supported by the Kansas Humanities Council.



Go Green Leprechaun Run on March 11

Saturday, March 11, 2017, Dyck Arboretum of the Plains will host its 7th Annual Go Green Leprechaun Run 2-mile fun run and 4th annual 10K race. The 10K race starts at 8:30 a.m., with registration at 7:45 a.m. The 2-mile fun run starts at 10 a.m., with registration beginning at 9:15 a.m. Participants are invited to wear costumes and may win prizes for the following contest categories: Greeniest Green, Most Creative/Unusual Costume, and Best Leprechaun.

Medals will be awarded to the top runners in age groups. See our website for details and registration information. Sponsors include Atomic Sports, Golden Plains Credit Union, Excel Industries, Inc., GLC Real Estate, Kropf Lumber, Inc., Newton Medical Center, Waste Connections, Inc., and Road ID.



Summer Soirée to Feature Leopold Expert Curt Meine

by Janelle Flory Schrock, Office Manager

The board and staff of the Dyck Arboretum are pleased to announce that our guest speaker for the 5th Annual Summer Soirée on Thursday, June 29th, from 6 to 9 p.m. will be Aldo Leopold biographer Curt Meine.

Curt Meine is a conservation biologist and writer based in Sauk County, Wisconsin. He serves as a senior fellow with the Chicago-based Center for Humans and Nature and with the Aldo Leopold Foundation in Baraboo, Wisconsin; as a research associate with the International Crane Foundation (also in Baraboo); and as an adjunct associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

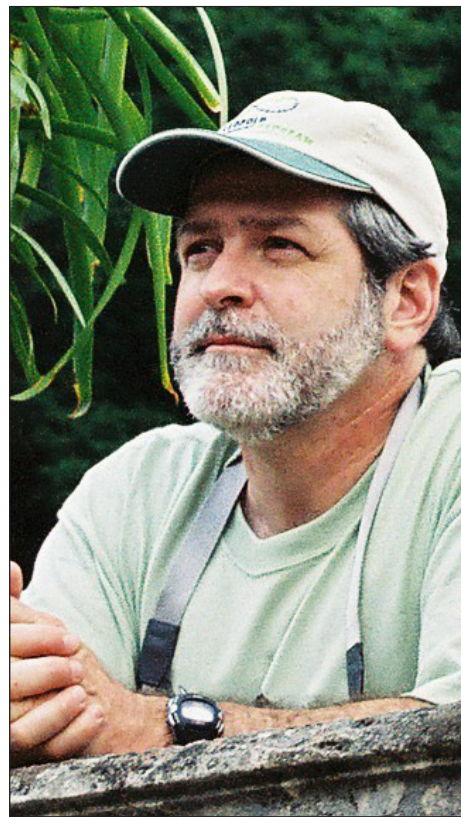
He has authored and edited several books, including the biography *Aldo Leopold: His Life and Work* (reissued in a new edition in 2010) and *Correction Lines: Essays on Land, Leopold, and Conservation* (2004). He has recently edited for the Library of America the definitive collection of Leopold's writings, *Aldo Leopold: A Sand County Almanac and Other Essays on Ecology and Conservation* (2013).

He also serves as the on-screen guide in the Emmy Award-winning documentary film *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time* (2011). He has worked with a wide variety of conservation organizations across the U.S. and internationally. He is also active in his local landscape as a founder and member of the Sauk Prairie Conservation Alliance in Sauk County, Wisconsin.

This annual fundraiser provides an evening of education, food, music and a silent auction for Arboretum members and supporters. Music will be provided at the beginning of the evening on hammered dulcimer by David Anderson. The meal will be

catered this year by Kaye Laudner of Catering by Kaye from Park City, Kansas. The four course menu will include carved inside round roast, herb crusted chicken breast, summer squash & potato torte, seasoned green beans, romaine lettuce salad with apples & pecans, homemade bread with butter and homemade ice cream with cherry, peach & blackberry cobbler.

Tickets are \$80 for individuals, \$150 for two, or \$550 to reserve a table of eight. Contributions are tax-deductible, less the fair market value of the evening. To reserve tickets to the Summer Soirée, visit our website at www.dyckarboretum.org or call the office at 620-327-8127 no later than June 15th.



35th Anniversary Events

BIRDING WITH LORNA: 8 a.m., 2nd Saturday of each month through October

SPRING SYMPOSIUM: March 18, 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
"Living the Land Ethic in Kansas"

SPRING CLASSES

- Leopold Bench Making Class - April 4 (5:30 p.m.) \$45
- Birdbath Making Class - start April 6 and finish April 11 (5:30 p.m. each day) \$20



Attention K-12 Educators!

Earth Partnership for Schools Summer Institute
June 5 -9, 2017 • Graduate Credit Available

- Are you interested in K-12 project-based learning for your students?
- Do you want continuing education that is hands-on, engaging, and fun?
- Would you like to infuse new energy into your teaching methods?
- Are you interested in learning more about the prairie and natural history of Kansas?

See our website for more information and sign up today!



Native Landscape Classes for Sunny and Shady Gardens

For Sunny Areas • Thursday, March 16, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00

For Shady Areas • Thursday, March 30, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00

Looking for a new approach to improve your landscape? These classes will address some of the landscape challenges faced by many homeowners. A sustainable landscape is not just visibly pleasing, but it also promotes the natural balance between local environmental and climate conditions. Choose to incorporate a community of plants that will grow and thrive together. Native wildflowers and grasses along with trees and shrubs can be strategically combined to create your own unique oasis.

Landscape trends for 2017 promote outdoor rooms and kitchens, edible gardens, and landscapes that help butterflies, bees, and other wildlife by using native plants. Whether you desire to create a natural habitat garden around your fire pit or wish to brighten up a shady spot in your landscape, these workshops can be the starting point for a sustainable design.

Join Scott Vogt as he explains the processes of planning, designing, installing and maintaining a native landscape. Come prepared with a scale drawing of your landscaping site. Attendees

will receive an additional 5% discount at our 2017 spring plant sale to purchase the plants from their design. Cost is \$20/person, \$15/members. Come either Thursday, March 16 (for sunny gardens) or Thursday, March 30 (for shady gardens), from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Contact us at Dyck Arboretum (620-327-8127; arboretum@hesston.edu) for reservations.



Phenology: Recording Nature Observations

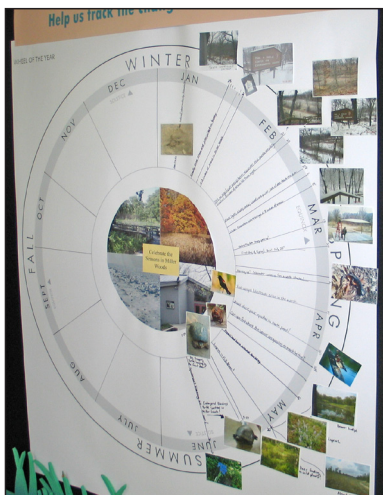
by Brad Guhr, Education and Prairie Restoration Coordinator

Phenology is the observance of cyclical and seasonal natural events. For millennia, these kinds of observations have been not only interesting and enriching to our human ancestors, but they have been critical to health and survival. Being successful with agriculture, hunting and gathering required an intimate connection to the natural world through careful observations and record-keeping.

In 2017, we are observing and documenting events related to weather, plants, and animals at Dyck Arboretum. With the help of visitors, we will record weather observations, presence/absence of migrating bird species, notable events with other forms of wildlife, flowering and seeding of plants, and more.

We invite you to help us document these phenological events by recording your observations on a sheet in our Visitor Center entryway. At regular intervals, we will compile these observations and record them onto a large wall-mounted "phenology wheel". The phenology wheel concept was created by Partners in Place, LLC.

Be observant, take photographs and share them with us (arboretum@hesston.edu), write descriptive notes, make drawings, collect a leaf or flower, note dates and weather conditions; educate yourself by engaging with the natural world around you. Through your citizen science observations in 2017, this Dyck Arboretum phenology wheel will be an educational tool through which everyone will benefit.



An example of a Phenology Wheel

Winter Lecture Series

Animal Sounds Around Us - Tuesday, February 28, 2017, 6:30 p.m. with Mark Nolen



Butterflies Go Native - Tuesday, March 28, 2017, 6:30 p.m. with Lenora Larson

RSVP for the 6:00 p.m. soup supper by the Friday, before the lecture. See more details on our website.



Dyck Arboretum of the Plains

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A Day with the Director on June 1st: Sternberg Museum of Natural History

There are places in Kansas that are often overlooked and taken for granted. One of those places is the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays. It ranks among the best natural history museums in the United States. As part of Fort Hays State University, the Sternberg Museum has a large collection of prehistoric Kansas fossils and artifacts.

You will have an opportunity to experience everything this museum has to offer including the "Fish-Within-A-Fish" fossil as part of our annual spring road trip. Other points of interest will be visits to the "Cathedral on the Plains", St. Fidelis Catholic Church in Victoria and a stop at the Garden of Eden in Lucas.

Lunch will be at Gella's Diner and Lb. Brewing Co. in Hays. Leave the Dyck Arboretum at 8 a.m. and return around 6 p.m. \$45 members/\$55 for non-members will cover the entire trip except lunch. RSVP by Friday, May 26.



Staff

Scott Vogt, Executive Director/
Horticulturist
Brad Guhr, Education/Prairie Restoration/
Concert Series Coordinator
Janelle Flory Schrock, Office Manager
Katie Schmidt, Grounds Manager/
Horticulturist

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