

## EVENTS

### **GHF Groundhogs Prairie Restoration Work Days** (p. 8)

Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 at Snyder Prairie, Mayetta, KS. Sign up: [fjnorman52@gmail.com](mailto:fjnorman52@gmail.com)

### **Oak Hill Cemetery Native Garden Work Days**

Aug. 25, 8:30 am, Sept. 11, 6 pm,  
1605 Oak Hill Rd., Lawrence

**GHF Fall Native Plant Sales**, Thursday Sept. 13 and Sept. 20, 4 – 6:30 pm, Cottin's Farmers Market, 1832 Mass., Lawrence

### **Divide and Multiply Native Garden Workshop**

Sept. 22, 9 am, KU Native Medicinal Plant Research Garden, 1865 E 1600 Rd., Lawr.

### **Restoration Realities Workshop #2**

October 13 at the Bellemere restoration site. Email GHF at [grasslandheritage@gmail.com](mailto:grasslandheritage@gmail.com) for directions.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- p. 2 Note from the GHF President
- p. 3 Native plant garden tour
- p. 4 Teasel
- p. 5 Scholarship announcement
- p. 5 Restoration workshops
- p. 6 New community native gardens
- p. 6 New members & donations
- p. 7 Thanks and spring plant sale recap
- p. 8 Groundhogs volunteer opportunity



## One More Chance for Native Plants!

Fall is an ideal time to enjoy cooler weather and to squeeze in more native plant gardening! Grassland Heritage Foundation is hosting two fall native plant sale dates, on September 13 and 20 at the 4-6:30 pm Cottin's Farmers Market in Lawrence. You can expect to find a variety of healthy native plants, plus GHF folks to chat with about how to best fit them into your garden. Also, the Cottin's market features hot food vendors, live music, and fresh produce. Look for the market behind Cottin's Hardware at 19th & New Hampshire. All plants are \$4 each. For the fall sale, we are not taking advance orders. As always, all plants are locally grown without neonicotinoids. The plant sale is a great way to support GHF's prairie education activities and to boost the wildlife habitat in your gardens.

## Celebrating the Paintbrush Prairie

GHF Board member Gary Tegtmeier hosted friends, family and prairie enthusiasts at his Paintbrush Prairie in Anderson County to enjoy the June wildflowers, and to dedicate a conservation easement with the Kansas Land Trust (KLT). KLT is a non-profit organization that helps landowners protect important conservation land by limiting development rights on their property. Significant commitment is required by the landowners, and by KLT, which monitors and defends the landowners' restrictions in perpetuity. Tegtmeier said that he was raised in Illinois, which is referred to as the 'Prairie State,' however. . .



Continued p. 3

Dr. Kelly Kindscher leading a walk on Paintbrush Prairie



Grassland Heritage Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership organization dedicated to prairie preservation and education.

*GHF News* is published three times a year by Grassland Heritage Foundation.  
Editor: Andrea Repinsky  
adheron@yahoo.com

Grassland Heritage Foundation  
P.O. Box 394  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201  
— —  
www.grasslandheritage.org  
— —  
grasslandheritage@gmail.com

#### GHF Officers

President: Sue Holcomb  
Vice-President: Megan Withiam  
Secretary: Mike Campbell  
Treasurer: Steve Holcomb  
Assistant to the Treasurer:  
Kevin Bachkora

#### Board of Governors

Ted Abel, Kansas City  
Angie Babbit, Lawrence  
Mike Campbell, Eudora  
Jennifer Dropkin, Lawrence  
Matthew Garrett, Lenexa  
Courtney Masterson, Lawrence  
Roxie McGee, Lawrence  
Rex Powell, Lone Star  
Andrea Repinsky, Lawrence  
Ann Simpson, Fairway  
Orley "Chip" Taylor, Berryton  
Gary Tegtmeier, Mission  
Joyce Wolf, Lecompton

#### Staff

Kim Bellemere: Education and  
Membership Coordinator  
Frank Norman: Preserve Manager

## A Note from the President

While tallgrass prairie landscape historically covered much of this part of the country, it is now one of the most endangered ecosystems. Prairie has been lost due to conversion to crop land, degradation due to overgrazing, encroachment by woods and invasive species, elimination of fires that helped to keep prairie as prairie and general sprawl from cities and suburbs. Restorations are attempts to reintroduce many of the plants that were once common and attract the fauna that utilized them.

Our efforts at planting natives in our gardens in suburban communities help to provide nectar and larval food for butterflies, attract other pollinators, and subsequently the birds and small mammals that feed on seeds and insects. Larger scale restorations provide these things on a bigger scale, but can we reconstruct a true prairie?

Restorations have been attempted since the 1930's. Most of what we know has been a long involved process of trial and error. Only more recently has the scientific method been more rigorously applied to determining best practices. The myriad inputs into each of the systems make simple rules very difficult to apply. We know that the big grasses will out-compete forbs if not introduced in the right way and time. Soil microbes and composition make a difference in what thrives. Years of depletion of soil resources does make a difference. Disturbances can have very long lasting effects. The restrictions of size and surrounding properties make movement of species difficult and management often is in conflict with neighbors. Some scientists question whether prairie restorations can ever duplicate a true virgin prairie, or whether it may take decades, centuries, or longer to happen.

So, while restorations have their benefits, we really must be vigilant about protecting the native prairie that still remains. We are fortunate in Kansas to have much of the existing tallgrass prairie. But that is still under constant threat. Sprawl spreads farther, disturbances are created from drilling and wind mills, cedars are taking over large expanses, grazing is allowed at intense levels, economic gains are outweighing environmental benefits, and laws are not giving precedence to conserving what we have.

In our role of protecting prairie we need to be aware of threats to native prairie and be ready to act. That can be commenting to legislators about upcoming bills, supporting land easements that protect property from misuse, speaking up and acting when we see prairie degrading, stepping up and purchasing prairie when possible, and taking care to properly manage any prairie we are lucky enough to own.

Sue Holcomb

sholc2003@yahoo.com



# Celebrating the Paintbrush Prairie

Continued from p.1

virtually all of the prairie was replaced by row crops, and he didn't experience real prairie until he moved to Kansas in 1970. He joined the Citizens' Environmental Council and the Save the Tallgrass Prairie (STP), which lobbied for the establishment of a national park in the Flint Hills. Grassland Heritage Foundation spun off of STP to focus on prairie education and preservation. Through GHF, first as a member and later as a board member, Tegtmeier said he "first experienced the tallgrass prairie, began to learn about it and ultimately came to love it."

He eventually began to look for a prairie hay meadow to purchase. After he lost a bid on a prairie remnant in Anderson County, he found Dean Goodell, a realtor with range management experience, who is also a new KLT board member. We described Tegtmeier's adventures finding Paintbrush Prairie in the Spring 2018 newsletter. Since then, Tegtmeier and his partner, Mary Kowalski counted over 400 federally threatened Mead's milkweed plants. A plant survey by Caleb Morse of the Kansas Biological Survey totaled 230 plant species.

Tegtmeier said that appreciates that the Paintbrush easement has been donated to the Kansas Land Trust, as he has longstanding ties to key individuals involved in KLT, such as the late Bill Ward, Laurie Ward, Rick Mitchell, John Simpson, and KLT founding member Kelly Kindscher. Over the past 40 years, Tegtmeier said he and Kindscher have "remained in touch as he has spread the prairie gospel far and wide

not to mention expanding our ethnobotanical knowledge." Tegtmeier thanked KLT Executive Director Jerry Jost for his knowledgeable and dependable guidance through the easement process.

Dr. Kindscher led a walk on the prairie, which was dotted with color from fading paintbrush flowers, bright purple prairie clover, and pale purple cone-flower swaying in the warm breeze.



American blueheart (*Buchnera americana*) on Paintbrush Prairie

## Native Plant Garden Tour



On July 7, Roxie McGee hosted 31 people at the KU Medicinal Plant Garden (left and center), and Patti Ragsdale hosted 32 at Happy Apple's Farm near Tonganoxie (right) for the 2018 GHF Native Plant Garden Tour.

# Teasel: An Emerging Problem in Kansas

As conservationists, we spend much of our time controlling invasive species that threaten the survival of our native flora and fauna. One plant that is spreading rapidly along our roadsides is teasel. The common practice of mowing late in the summer along right-of-ways was particularly detrimental and it allowed the infestations to multiply quickly.

Two species of teasel *Dipsacus foliolosus*, common or Fuller's teasel and *Dipsacus laciniatus*, cut-leaved teasel, were introduced to our continent from Europe by the early 1800's. Common teasel heads were used to card or "tease" the fibers of wool. Teasel was also used in flower or dried flower arrangements—cemeteries are often infested. Common teasel is found in most states and cut-leaf is in the northeast and central states. Both are located here in Kansas and Missouri. It grows in sunny locations with either wet or dry conditions. It is most commonly found in disturbed areas, but is moving into prairies.

This herbaceous plant is considered a biennial or short-lived perennial. Seeds germinate and form rosettes in their first year. By the second year they have developed long tap roots and, if they are large enough, will send up a flowering stalk, otherwise this will happen in subsequent years. The leaves are opposite, joined around the stem. The plants are "prickly" along stems, leaves, and flowering heads.

The flowering heads are oval shaped with the tiny flowers (white for common, pink or lavender for cut-leaf) blooming first in a ring around the middle and then developing both up and down. Blooming time is from June to October. Each plant can produce up to 3,000 seeds. The seeds usually fall to the ground and stay within 5 feet of the plant, but moving water and mowing equipment can move them much farther. The plant will die after producing seed heads and leave a large patch of bare ground which is perfect for the seeds to germinate the following year and the cycle continues.

Because of the ease of reproduction, these plants will quickly crowd out all other vegetation. The key to controlling is to stop the production and spread of

seeds. With limited numbers, basal plants can be pulled or dug up, similarly to thistles. Flowering stems can be cut near ground level just before bloom time, but be sure to remove them as they may still produce viable seed.

For larger infestations, control of rosettes in spring or fall when other plants are dormant can be done with broadleaf herbicides. Be sure to choose one appropriate for your location. Mowing during the flowering stage can leave short stems that still produce flowering heads. Burning has had mixed results. Fire can burn up seeds, but does not burn hot enough in monoculture stands. Removing the litter can open up more areas for seeds to germinate. Incomplete burns can provide shelter for seedlings under existing plants.

No matter how you attempt it, control will take several years, as the seeds persist at least a few years. Remember, if you cut teasel, to properly dispose of it, so that you don't inadvertently spread the seeds to new areas. Teasel is listed as a noxious weed in Missouri, but not in Kansas. Information is available from both states invasive species programs online.



Cut leaved teasel (left) common teasel (right)  
Photo courtesy Missouri Department of Conservation.



USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 3: 289.



## GHF Scholarship Fund Supports Pollinator Study

GHF is pleased to announce that we awarded a scholarship from a grant by Susan Lordi Marker for pollinator research to Pam Blackmore, a Kansas State University Master of Landscape Architecture candidate. Blackmore's project, "Butterflies, Tallgrass Prairie, and Green Roofs" will address: 1) to what extent does a native plant green roof support butterfly communities in Manhattan, Kansas, in comparison to nearby native prairie, and 2) how does on-site vegetation composition influence butterfly species richness, diversity, distribution, and abundance?

She is completing her second season of sampling at the East and West Memorial Stadium roofs at Kansas State University, two sites at the Konza Prairie Biological Station, and Warner Park urban prairie in Manhattan. Surveying will involve determining butterfly presence and behavior at each site. The GHF scholarship supplemented funds Blackmore has obtained from several sources and will help fund field technicians to record a second year of data.

In recommending Blackmore, her advisor, David Haukos, leader of the Kansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and Associate Professor, KSU Division of Biology, commented that she "has completely immersed herself into pollinators and plants of the tall-grass prairie. . . Pam has complex career goals of combining a landscape architecture educa-

tion and experience with an ecological understanding of the natural world to design, develop, and restore urban and suburban landscapes to benefit people and native species in their natural environments. Furthermore, she is dedicated to connecting people to nature and mentoring society to understand ecological and environmental effects of their actions."



*Native plants at the KSU Memorial Stadium*

Your contributions to the Rachel Snyder Memorial Scholarship Fund can help support projects like this one, and promising students, into the future. Thank you to Susan Lordi Marker and all of our scholarship fund supporters.

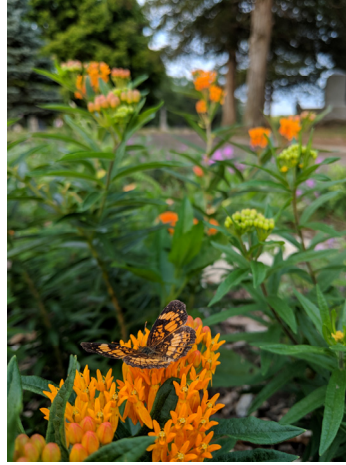
## Learning by Doing: A 2-Acre Prairie Restoration



*Jennifer Delisle speaking at the Bellemere restoration workshop*

GHF's Kim Bellemere and her family are in the first year of a 2-acre prairie restoration on their Douglas County property. GHF and Jayhawk Audubon Society (JAS) are collaborating on a project funded by National Audubon Society to document the process as a learning tool. About 25 people attended the June 9 workshop at the Bellemere's. Jennifer Delisle with JAS, Frank Norman, and Bellemere spoke, and Norman and Courtney Masterson led a walk. The group also toured two older restorations on neighboring properties. Read more on the restoration blog on the GHF website! Email [grasslandheritage@gmail.com](mailto:grasslandheritage@gmail.com) to RSVP for the next workshop on October 13.

# Community Gardens Bring Prairie to the People



L-R: Oak Hill Cemetery garden planting in June, Oak Hill in July, Ann Simpson, Gary Tegtmeier at the Shawnee Mission Cemetery

Our native plant community is making great progress planting new native gardens and involving new partners, including city staff! In 2016, GHF board member Courtney Masterson and Kaw Valley Native Plant Coalition (KVNPC) added a native plant garden bed to a city park on the Burroughs Creek Trail in Lawrence. In 2017, GHF, Masterson, KVNPC, and Brook Creek Neighborhood Association planted a native garden in Brook Creek Park. This year, GHF, Jayhawk Audubon and the Blue Moon Community

partnered with the City of Lawrence to add three new native gardens to the scenic and historic Oak Hill Cemetery. Masterson also added more native plants to the Kansas Biological Survey grounds. Soon, she'll begin a river bank restoration project via her business, Native Lands LLC, with Friends of the Kaw, City of Lawrence, and other partners, with Douglas County Heritage Conservation Council funding. Fall work days and quick maintenance visits are scheduled for the river project and for the other gardens.

## Donations and Memberships

Thank you to the donors to our special funds.

Education: Phyllis Copt, Linda Mangelsdorf-Oshel, David Rock, Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club, Roxie McGee, Sylvia Rawlings

Land Management: Phil & Ellen Loomis, Ozark Wilderness Waterways club

Scholarship: Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club, Georgiana Baer, James Burbage

Prairie Protection Fund: Ron & Joyce Wolf, Gary Tegtmeier, Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club

Special gifts:

Recurring gifts by Jessica Daniels, Kenneth & Gayle Nicolay

In Memory of Joseph O. Berger by Byril Sanders

In Memory of Rachel Snyder, who was a former member, by Ozark Wilderness Waterways

Welcome to New Members:

David Rock, Martha Hagen, Carolyn Kusmin, Lorie Vanchena, Lynn Byczynski, Andi Back, Mary & Mike Schnebly, Kathy Denning, Melody Stratton, Jane Hanni, Karen Dove, Susan Sanders, Phil & Ellen Loomis, Linda Mangelsdorf-Oshel, James Morrissey, Sylvia Rawlings, Audrey Singer, Andrew Mitchell, Tracey Graham, James Burbage

Returning Members:

Melvin Depperschmidt (Matched by Westar Energy), Marsha Sodamann, Pat Wittry, Betty Sterling, Richard Brune, Kathryn Lange, Mary Powell, Carol Morgan, Janet Roth, Stan Roth, Elizabeth Patton, Darla Mitchell, Byril J. Sanders, Jean Hiersteiner, Phyllis Copt, Alexis Powell, Mary Conrad, Barbara & Dick Schowen, Ione Unruh, Durand Reiber, Florence & Robert Middleton, Jill Kleinberg, Margaret Thomas, Becky & Lisa LaBlanc-Willis, Carole & John Hunter, Danial Dannenberg.



**We depend on your contributions!** Please help GHF protect prairie by sending your donation today. The date of your last contribution is printed above your name on the mailing label.

**Send to:** Grassland Heritage Foundation, PO Box 394, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201

Membership Categories: \_\_\$20 Friend \_\_\$35 Family \_\_\$50 Steward \_\_\$100 Sustaining \_\_\$250 Conserver  
\_\_\$500 Patron \_\_\$1000 Benefactor \_\_\$5000 Founder \_\_\$15 Student/Retiree

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_Email\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_Send my newsletter by mail **OR** \_\_\_\_Send my PDF newsletter to the above email address

\_\_\_\_Contact me about volunteering

\_\_\_\_Gift in *honor* or *memory* of (mark which)\_\_\_\_\_

Your contribution will be placed in the general fund unless you designate your donation for :

\_\_\_\_Rachel Snyder Memorial Scholarship Fund

\_\_\_\_Prairie Protection

\_\_\_\_Education Programs

\_\_\_\_Prairie Management

**Membership renewals and donations  
can also be sent to GHF online:  
[www.grasslandheritage.org](http://www.grasslandheritage.org)**

## Thank you to . . .

Thank you to everyone who came out for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual GHF native Plant Sale in May! The early morning rain didn't slow us down and the day ended with close to 3,000 plants sold.

Thank you to Sue and Steve Holcomb for handling the finances and member/kit orders. Sue, Steve, Mike Campbell and Gary Tegtmeier for helping tag and sort plants prior to the sale. Gary for his great photography. Angie Babbit, Ann Simpson, and Courtney Masterson for doing presentations. Andrea Repinsky, Jennifer Dropkin, Mike Campbell, Gary Tegtmeier, Ann Simpson, Courtney Masterson, Sue and Steve Holcomb, Pat Kedhe, Jamie Hofling, Crystal Klebenstein, James Burbage, Ken Tillery, Jan Speigel, Margaret Rose, Mary & Mike Schnebly, and Jack Bellemere for helping the day of the event.

Thank you to Cottin's Hardware for lending two canopies which kept us out of the rain and giving GHF space for the fall plant sale.

Jennifer Dropkin, Dale Nimz, Coyla Lockhart, and Andi Back for planting the Oak Hill Cemetery native plant garden.

To Courtney Masterson for designing Garden-to-Go kits for the plant sale and designing the GHF garden at Oak Hill Cemetery and leading the planting.

The Jayhawk Audubon Society for inviting us to partner with them on the National Audubon Society Collaborative Grant Program. Jennifer Delisle, Frank Norman, and Courtney Masterson for speaking and leading walks at the JAS/GHF Restoration Realities Workshop.

Courtney Masterson and Patti Ragsdale for speaking at the March and April Native Plant Gardening Workshops and to Andrea Repinsky and Roxie McGee for helping set up the events.

Roxie McGee and Patti Ragsdale for speaking and leading the tour during the GHF Native Plant Garden Tour. Douglas Co. Extension Master Gardeners and KU Biological Survey and Patti and Brent Ragsdale for inviting GHF to tour the KU Native Medicinal Plant Research Garden and Happy Apple's Farm.

Thanks to Kevin Bachkora for accounting services.

Grassland Heritage Foundation  
PO Box 394  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201

**Return Service Requested**

Non-Profit Organization

US POSTAGE PAID

Olathe, KS

Permit No. 309

*Your last contribution was made:*

To receive your newsletter in pdf form by email, contact Sue Holcomb at [sholc2003@yahoo.com](mailto:sholc2003@yahoo.com) or (913) 856-4784.

Enjoy your newsletter in full color on our website: [www.grasslandheritage.org](http://www.grasslandheritage.org).



Printed on Recycled Paper

## Be a Groundhog!

Snyder Prairie  
Restoration Outings  
Sept. 15 — Oct. 17 — Nov. 20



Contact Frank Norman at  
[fjnorman52@gmail.com](mailto:fjnorman52@gmail.com)



## GHF Fall Native Plant Sales

September 13 & 20  
4 to 6:30 p.m.

Cottin's  
Farmers Market