

Kansas Association of Biology Teachers
K A B T Newsletter
May 1991 Volume 32, No. 2
Paul G. Jantzen, Editor Production by Osprey

Calendar - Looking Ahead

1991

June 1-2	Kansas Association of Biology Teachers Spring Meeting with the Prairie Festival at the Land Institute, Salina, KS.
October 5	Kansas Ornithological Society, Fort Hays State University, Hays.
October 12	Kansas Mammalogists, Emporia State University, Emporia.
October 18-21	Interdisciplinary Environmental Education Workshop, Rock Springs Ranch near Junction City, KS.
October 24-26	NSTA Area Meeting, Omaha, NE.
November 6-10	National Association of Biology Teachers Convention, Nashville, TN.

Please mail or phone meeting dates and other items of interest to biology teachers to Paul G. Jantzen, Editor, 107 North Madison, Hillsboro, KS 67063 (316) 947-5433.

Your membership expiration date can be found on your mailing label.

The Kansas Biology Teacher Is Off The Ground

The first issue of KABT's journal, The Kansas Biology Teacher, has been mailed. We hope you find its contents helpful and stimulating. While you examine its contents, think about what you can do to make the next issue even better. I'd suggest you plan to write your own contribution to the journal. Its purpose is to share ideas regarding the teaching of biology. And you have many, at least a few, ideas the rest of us would like to know about.

Send your article(s) to the editor this summer, at least by October, so we can suggest possible changes that can improve the manuscript for publication. pgj

Spring Meeting Information - Prairie Festival - The Land Institute

Each of you should have received a mailing from The Land Institute concerning the Prairie Festival 1991 which is held each year. This year we will hold our spring meeting in conjunction with the festival. All the information is contained in the brochure that you received. We will hold our meeting at noon on Saturday, June 1, at a place to be announced or posted at the registration table. KABT will provide drink and fruit so you just need to bring whatever else you desire to satisfy your appetite. Registration will be \$5.00 per day for all KABT members, even if you do not pre-register. You must tell them you are a KABT member at registration so they can check your name off the list. If you have more questions concerning any of the weekend activities feel free to call John Wachholz at (913) 825-7742. Leave your phone number if I am not at home and I will get back to you and try to answer your questions. It is my feeling that you will have a day or two (depending on your choice) filled with motivation and information

concerning "The Value of Nature" and The Land Institute. Come share and learn with all of us. Camping, schedule, tours, etc., is covered in the brochure.

KSU OFFERS SUMMER ORNITHOLOGY COURSE

ORNITHOLOGY, Biology 543 (3 cr.) will be offered at Kansas State University this summer from 4 June through 28 June. Classes will meet MTWT from 1-3 p.m. for lecture and on F from 7-11 a.m. for lab. There will also be all-day field trips on 15 June and 22 June. Instructor: J. Zimmerman.

ESU OFFERS CELL BIOLOGY COURSE

ESU will offer advances in **Cell Biology**, for two hours of either undergraduate or graduate credit. The class will meet Monday through Thursday, 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. The first day of class will be June 20.

Special topics: membrane receptors; cell-to-cell signaling; cellular movements; events of synthesis, sorting and secretion; regulation of the cell cycle, etc. This course should be especially useful to biology instructors in the community colleges and those teaching advanced high school biology courses. It would be helpful if interested persons would let us know of their interest. A note or a phone call to me would be appreciated. Gaylen Neufeld - Professor of Biology - 316-343-5608

BIOGRAPHY OF KU PROFESSOR, EXPLORER AVAILABLE

The University of Kansas Museum of Natural History is now distributing *The Dashing Kansan: Lewis Lindsay Dyche, Nineteenth-Century Naturalist and Explorer* by Bill Sharp and Peggy Sullivan. Dyche was a driving force in the growth of the museum and, as Kansas Fish and Game Warden, in the construction of a large freshwater fish hatchery for the state.

Dyche studied taxidermy and prepared a wildlife panorama for exhibit in the Kansas building at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. He explored Alaska and participated in the American Museum of Natural History expedition to "rescue" Lieutenant Robert E. Peary in Greenland in 1895.

This 222 page biography with 92 photos and illustrations is available from the Museum of Natural History, 602 Dyche Hall, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2454; (913)864-4540. Cost is \$19.95 plus \$2 postage and handling for the first book, \$.50 each additional copy. Kansas residents must add 5.25% sales tax.

Cheyenne Bottoms: Wetland in Jeopardy

by: John L. Zimmerman

Half the wetland acreage in the United States has vanished since European settlers began draining swamps a century ago. Among the wetlands that remain, a few are critically important because of their size, their location, and their role in feeding and sheltering vast numbers of birds and other wildlife. Cheyenne Bottoms, a 20,000-acre marsh in central Kansas, is such a place.

In *CHEYENNE BOTTOMS: Wetland in Jeopardy*, ecologist/ornithologist John Zimmerman combines his own lively narrative with line drawings by Marty Capron and exquisite color

photographs to provide an introduction to Cheyenne Bottoms that is personal, impassioned, and technically accurate.

Located on the main migration route between wintering grounds in South America and breeding territory in Canada, Cheyenne Bottoms is an essential refueling stop for millions of migrating shore birds, songbirds, and waterfowl. It hosts 90% of the populations of five species of shore birds as well as a number of endangered and threatened species. Because of its importance to so many species, Cheyenne Bottoms has been designated by treaty as a Wetland of International Importance.

In CHEYENNE BOTTOMS Zimmerman chronicles the natural history of the Bottoms from its formation 100,000 years ago to the present. He describes the birds, mammals, and reptiles that depend on it and the intricate web of interactions among them that is the Cheyenne Bottoms ecosystem.

The recent fate of Cheyenne Bottoms, Zimmerman notes, has been determined by human history, not natural history. He documents the negative impact humans have had on the Bottoms and examines the complex of problems created by irrigation, water rights, and politics. Zimmerman also describes the remarkable grassroots campaign to save the Bottoms that made allies of conservation groups, hunters, garden clubs, public school students, and the state government.

Author John Zimmerman is professor of biology at Kansas State University, editor of the Kansas Ornithological Society Bulletin, and coauthor of A Guide to Bird finding in Kansas and Western Missouri. Jan Garton, who contributed the introduction to CHEYENNE BOTTOMS, has received national recognition for her role in saving Cheyenne Bottoms. In 1987 she was named Conservationist of the Year by the Kansas Wildlife Federation for her leadership in gaining legislative support for the preservation of the Bottoms. In May 1990 she received the distinguished Chevron Conservation Award.

CHEYENNE BOTTOMS is available in book stores or may be purchased direct from the University Press of Kansas. See the book sale announcement in this newsletter.

from: University Press of Kansas press release
1990, December 5

HEARD FROM A NATIVE OF THE BRAZILIAN RAIN FOREST: "Forests are the lungs of the world."

PUBLISHING DATES FOR THE KABT NEWSLETTER are the first day of September, November, February and April. Manuscripts must reach the editor by the 15th day of the previous month. The KABT Newsletter includes abbreviated minutes of the official meetings, announcements of future activities, brief news notes, and other brief items of interest to biology teachers. Send your contributions to Paul G. Jantzen, Editor, 107 N. Madison, Hillsboro, KS 67063 (316) 947-5433.

Newsletter Information Needed: Articles are needed for the newsletter. Please forward them to Paul G. Jantzen, KABT Newsletter Editor, 107 North Madison, Hillsboro, KS., 67063. It would be most helpful if you could send information typed on Appleworks, Macintosh, or ASCII files.

My apology for this late newsletter. End of school and a new computer take time. If anyone would like to replace me feel free to call and so inform. jrw

TEACHING EVOLUTION: UNDERSTANDING, CONCERNS, AND INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACHES

Many science teachers have experienced frustration, challenges, and even criticism when the study of evolution is presented as an instructional unit. The issue can certainly be a sensitive one and the potential confrontation it engenders is very real. This can be especially true if students perceive the topic of evolution to be in conflict with their own beliefs. One response to this problem is simply to ignore it; another is to attempt to more adequately address it. The primary purpose of this summer institute is to promote the latter.

Kansas State University, Center for Science Education, therefore, is soliciting applications from regional science teachers to participate in a two-week summer institute which focuses on the nature of science in the teaching of evolutionary principles from biological, geological, and educational perspectives. The institute, funded by the National Science Foundation under the title "The Nature of Science and Instructional Role of Scientific Theories," is being designed to:

1. Update participants' background in the nature of science and knowledge of biological and geological science content related to evolutionary theory;
2. Enhance participants, abilities to assess and address student misconceptions regarding scientific concepts that contribute to historical and contemporary views of evolutionary theory; and
3. Assist participants in the development of units of study and daily lessons that integrate the nature of science, updated science content, and alternative instructional strategies for teaching evolution.

Participant eligibility requirements include: Certification in a secondary science discipline (priority will be given to biology/earth science teachers and rural teachers), a degree in science education, two years teaching experience, and a letter of support from your principal. The letter of support should accompany your application and indicate a willingness on the part of the school to grant an on-site visitation by the Institute Co-Directors, Dr. Larry Scharmann and Dr. Maury Harris

Participants may elect to obtain 2 graduate credits in addition to receiving the following:

1. A stipend of \$600; 2. Round trip travel expenses; 3. An approximate value of \$175 in books and instructional materials; and 4. Room & Board at Kansas State University.

Interested Candidates should complete the information below and send to: Dr. Larry Scharmann, 247 Bluemont Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
School District # ____ School _____

