



# Lower Ark Chapter

## Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams

# Happenings

WEBSITE – WWW.KSWETLANDS.ORG

### Our Purpose:

The Chapter serves as a clearinghouse for wetlands and riparian areas information and activities, promotes educational opportunities with a variety of targeted audiences, and facilitates project implementation for wetland and riparian area projects within the participating counties.

### Our Mission:

To ensure the future of wetlands, streams, and their adjacent riparian areas as an integral part of our Kansas heritage and landscape.

### Our Vision:

A public that is well informed and involved in activities that foster the protection, enhancement, and establishment of wetlands and riparian areas in Kansas.

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### Steering Committee

Gary Cramer – K-state RE  
Vaughn Weaver- City of  
Wichita  
Ron Graber- Watershed  
Specialist  
Brenda Peters- McPherson CD  
Lisa French- Cheney  
Watershed

Membership is free and open to any interested individual, organization or agency interested in wetland and riparian area conservation. For more information on KAWS and its activities please contact:

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Jeff Ruckert

KAWS Chapter Coordinator  
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## February 21 Meeting Review

### KAWS Coordinator's Report

### Chapter Business:

KAWS Lower Ark Chapter  
Plum Creek Lighthouse  
Bushton, Ks.  
February 21, 2006

### Present:

Jeff Ruckert, Gary Cramer, Ron Klein, Baron Shively, Brenda Peters and Ron Graber.

Jeff called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Jeff updated the group on grant options and funding cuts. Dollars have been splint between chapters and each chapter has \$16,500.00 to allocate by the end of March. The Fisher project will use \$2816.00. It is for a shallow water area with the Stumps money cost sharing 50%. New project applications need to be submitted. There are a number of EQIP stabilization projects that could considered for supplemental funding.

Jeff noted that KDHE is promoting the development of WRAPS plans and that KAWS could help with the implementation process.

He told of the Stumps fund that has been opened up to include Rice, Ellsworth, Lincoln, Saline, McPherson, Reno, Russell, Barton and Stafford counties. This could be used for 50% cost share, with a cap of \$5,000.00) for stockwater ponds, wetlands, shallow water, etc, basically anything a “duck can put his foot in”.

He also mentioned some 5 star grants that can be used for wetlands and riparian restoration.

The next full board meeting will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Hays.

**Coordinator's Report (cont. from page 1)**

**Chapter Business**

Brenda noted that McPherson CCD would like to see a WRAPS plan developed for the Smoky Hill watershed. They will be working with Ron Graber and Jeff on this.

Jeff asked the group for comments on a request from a country club in Wichita to help with stream bank degradation. It was the consensus to advise them to check with the city and county first to see what they might be working on that would impact this.

The next meeting will be held at the USDA service center in Newton on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Peters

**Upcoming Chapter meetings, activities, and events**