



# Solomon Valley Chapter

## Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams

# Happenings

WEBSITE – WWW.KAWS.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

**Terri Nuzum – Mitchell Co. CD**  
**Sheila Diamond – Jewell Co. CD**  
**Tonya Pruett – Smith Co. CD**

**Darla Juhl – Solomon Valley RC&D**

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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:

#### Tim Christian

KAWS State Coordinator  
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#### Chris Berens

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## Jan. 12 Meeting Review

### KAWS Coordinator's Report

The meeting began at 10:00am at the USDA Service Center in Beloit with 4 people in attendance.

#### Website and Documents – [www.KAWS.org](http://www.KAWS.org)

- KAWS website is changing daily be sure to check it often for new information and calendar events. If you would like to have something added to the calendar of events on the website just email the information to Chris.

#### KAWS Updates

- **Long Range Funding** – Chris gave a brief overview of the KAWS Long Term Funding and provided the individual member level brochures for those in attendance. If you would like a copy of this brochure or would like to discuss the other member levels please contact Chris and he will get that information out to you. Chris asked the group if they knew of any local companies, conservation districts, or individuals that might be interested in donating to the Long Range Funding of KAWS. A few names were given and forwarded to KAWS state coordinator for consideration. Chris discussed how several conservation districts have contributed at different levels. If your organization or conservation district would like to contribute contact Chris.
- KAWS also applied for a deer permit from KDWP through the special non-profit organization drawing. If awarded the sale of the tag to the highest bidder will bring additional money to the Long Range Funding program. Since the meeting, KDWP draw has been conducted and KAWS was not successful in the drawing.
- **KAWS BOD retreat update-**
  - Long Range Funding – additional materials were provided that will be included in the packets delivered to potential founding benefactor contributors.
  - CPRII – Partners meeting discussed on day 3 of the conference will be held in conjunction with the KAWS BOD meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

**KAWS 2004 Annual Reports** – copies of this report are still available. Contact Chris if you would like a copy.

### Grant Updates

- **SCC/EPA and KDHE** – The \$280,000 allocated for project dollars should be available for projects sometime in March 2006. These project dollars are designed to help fund demonstration projects. If you have a project proposal that you need to submit please get those to me as soon as possible so we can get them on the list to be approved by PMT.
- **RGI** – Chris reported that Rick Davis is working on finalizing out the RGI grant. "Save Time and Money" brochure can be downloaded from the KAWS website under publications. The publication can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

**Other Grants** – other grants that KAWS has or will be applying for were discussed. More information will be available at the next chapter meeting.

**Project Profiles** – All forms are available at the KAWS website. To access those forms click [here](#).

- If you are not familiar with the KAWS project types, you can view them on the same website page as the link for the KAWS forms.
- **Project Ranking** – Chris stated that the BOD decided to allocate each of the 12 chapters \$16,500 to spend for this round of funding. This funding should be utilized on projects in counties that currently have none first, then to new project types in a county, with those in the high priority areas ranking the highest. **Currently no projects are awaiting approval for the Solomon Valley Chapter. After March 2006, unused funds allocated to the Solomon Valley Chapter will be allocated to projects in other chapters.** So now is the time to get your projects submitted before we lose our allocation. Once ranked by the chapter the project list will be submitted to PMT for final

approval before any projects are accepted.

- Jamestown Project information and pictures are on the Solomon Valley Chapter website ([click here](#)). This page is still under construction however can still be viewed. Recent pictures and detailed information will be put on the page soon so check back often.
- Aaron Deters, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks discussed a possible project in Mitchell County that would partner with a WHIP wetland creation and restoration project. Chris and Aaron discussed the project after the meeting and are looking at the possible partnership for the project.

### Other Topics

- **WRAPS** – The upcoming WRAPS workshop (Jan. 26) was discussed with several members from the chapter planning to attend. Chris stated that the Solomon Valley RC&D was looking at the possibilities of developing a WRAPS plan but was unsure of the entire area being discussed. Chris will contact Darla Juhl for more information on these WRAPS plans. Look for updated information at the next chapter meeting.

Special Thanks to Terri Nuzum for hosting the meeting.

## NEXT SOLOMON VALLEY CHAPTER MEETING

**April 12, 2006**

**Location to be determined.**

If you would like to hold the meeting in your town or Service Center please contact Chris.

## Upcoming Chapter meetings, activities, and events

KAWS BOD meeting March 9, Hays. Sternberg  
KGLC kickoff Feb. 7 Salina National Guard Armory.  
March 16, Water and the Future of Kansas Workshop.

**For more events or activities please visit the KAWS website Calendar**