



KANSAS PRAIRIE PACKERS BASECAMP NEWSLETTER

BASECAMP is published by the Kansas Prairie Packers Association, Inc., at Topeka, KS. Membership in Prairie Packers is open to individuals and families interested in hiking, backpacking, canoeing, bicycling, cross-country skiing and other outdoor activities.

www.prairiepackers.org

APRIL, 2008

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Denise Myers	986.6626
John Stambaugh	862.6621
Teresa Stambaugh	862.6621
Jon Ware	266.2144
Rosemary Ware	266.2144

MONTHLY MEETING

LOCATION

Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka
Board Meeting 6:00 pm
Visit and Eat 6:15 pm
Meeting 7:00 pm

APRIL 9, 2008

PROGRAM

Jerry's Bike Shop

See inside for details



ACTIVITY CALENDAR

April 4 – 8—Ouachita Trail Backpack and Hike in Oklahoma – Jack Collie -

Jack Collie and Todd Osborne will be leading a backpacking trip through the Ouachita Mountains. We will be leaving Topeka at 6:00 am on Friday April 4th and will arrive at Talihema State Park in SE Oklahoma around 1:00 pm that same day. The goal is to head down the trail to either Frazier Creek or the Panorama Visita area and make our first Camp. We will cover an average of approximately 9 miles a day. We will conclude the backpack around Big Cedar Creek. We will head back to Topeka on Tuesday April 8th and should be back by late afternoon, early evening.

We are hiking the first section of the Ouachita Trail. This is rated the most difficult section of a 223 mile trail that terminates in Arkansas. This part of the trail is very rugged but it is also very beautiful. The elevation will range from 900 feet up to 2000 feet. The trail follows the Winding Stair Mountain range through mixed forest consisting of large pine trees and oaks trees. I would rate this trail as intermediate to difficult in places.

The trail is very rocky since it weaves its way through several glacial boulder fields. I would highly recommend that you have good pair of hiking boots that are broken in, provides for ankle protection, and has a good foot-bed liner for cushioning. I would also suggest that you bring along a pair of trekking poles or a hiking staff to help provide balance. The temperature should be in the 70's during the day and the 40's at night; however, it is possible to be 10 degrees warmer or cooler. You should also expect rainfall, so bring some good rain gear and a pack cover. I would also recommend that you keep your pack weight down to a minimum. Please plan accordingly.

You will responsible for your own food, water and gear. We can probably share some stoves and fuel to cut down on weight. There is not an abundance of water available on this section of the trail but water should be available at the campsites. Todd and I will provide a water filter for the group.

Dave Dunford will serve as a contact person for travel arrangements. We are car pooling for the trip and we will place a vehicle at each end of the trail.

You can visit several websites for more information, just goggle for the Ouachita Trail. Tim Ernst has written a book about this trail. He has a website as well.

Please contact Jack Collie for more information. He can be reached at the following: (H) 246-3178, (c) 806- 3663, (B) 368-4180 and at jecollie@tiopeka.org.

Tentative schedule for a four day trek starting at Talihema State Park:

	<u>Campsite</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	
		<u>Trail</u>	<u>Total</u>
April 4 th Day 1	Panorama Vista opt. 2	5	5
April 5 th Day 2	Cedar/Allen Branch	9	14
April 6 th Day 3	Past Horse Thief Springs	9	23
April 7 th Day 4	Big Cedar Creek	7	30
Optional	Hwy 259	0.5	30.5

April 9—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka

Hands on fix your flat tire lesson. Bring a wheel or two or even their whole bike and he'll bring tubes, patch kits and tire tools and a pump and teach them how to change and fix a flat and possibly answer questions about other bike maintenance.

April 12—Kansas Prairie Packer membership event – 10:00-2:00 p.m.

Come join other members and new potential members for a hike at the Governor's Trail. Bring your neighbors, friends, children, grandchildren and even your dogs. This event is for everyone! Tents, backpacks and other outdoor gear will be on display. There will be food, lots and lots of prizes. Sunflower Outdoor store and Board Members will be present to answer your outdoor questions and provide information about Prairie Packers. The event may be postponed in the case of really bad weather. Call Teresa Stambaugh, or Terese Hamilton if you have any questions. Don't miss the fun. See you Saturday April 12.

April 19—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

Wolf Creek Hike

April 26—Bike trip – Jon and Rosemary Ware – 266.2144

We have scheduled a bike trip at Lawrence on April 26th. We will meet at the intersection of K-10 & U.S.59 highways. There is a parking lot on the north west corner of this intersection.

This parking lot is beside the PINK movie theater; or it was pink the last time I saw it; we will travel west by northwest paralleling K-10 for about 10 miles almost to the turnpike. The trail does have a few rather steep hills, but it will be down hill on the return.

As this will be a 20 mile trip, one should bring a snack and water. However, if you don't want to ride the entire route that will be ok. After we return we plan to go to a restaurant for lunch.

We plan to meet at 9:30 April 26th . Hope to see a lot of you there; bring a smile and dry weather!!!!

April 28 – May 1—Canyonland Hiking and Campout—Jerry Reichenberger and Dave Dunford: 234.4667

Jerry and Chris from Wichita have reservations for camping in Chesler Park April 28 & 29, Lost Canyon April 30 and in Squaw Canyon May 1st. This area is 70 miles from Moab. Most of the trails in this area are slick rock with carins marking the trail. There are a few ups and downs and some rocks to climb over, making hiking only moderately difficult. It will be 6 miles hiking the first day and then only 2 or 3 miles the 3rd and 4th day. Also it would be easy for anyone to hike out to the cars the 3rd day if they needed to get home early. The trail is a loop. This is a very scenic high desert area with lots of tall spires and colorful rock formations. Also many places to visit in Chesler Park on the second day. You can get lots of pictures on the internet. Basically easy hiking with a possibility of having to carry some water if it's dry. The maximum number of people in each group is 7, and it's necessary to camp at the site you have reserved each night. Leaving Topeka early Saturday April 26th with one overnight should get anyone there in time to begin hiking the morning of the 28th and with a long days drive you could get home either the 1st or 2nd of May. There could possibly be space for 3 or 4 people to go from Topeka. If this interests you contact Dave Dunford, 234-4667 about possibly going from Topeka or Jerry's number is 316-263-0422 if you'd like more information about the Canyonlands area.

May 14—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka

May 17—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

May 31 – June 7 or 8—Canoe trip on the Kaw, the whole thing! – Dave Dunford & Russell Gray – 234.4667

June 7—13th Annual Wilson County Wildflower Tour 620.378.2866

June 11—Annual potluck at Lake Shawnee

June 21—Bike trip – Jan & Terese Hamilton – 633.9122

July 9—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka

July 11 – 20—Summer Backpack

Green River Trail, Wind River Range in Wyoming

July 18-26—Summer Backpack

Colorado another possibility in planning

July 19—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

August 2 – 4—Saylorville Lake in Des Moines car camp and bike – Mike and Shari LaRue – 836.3167

It may seem a long way off but popular sites like Saylorville Lake fill up fast. We are camping in a Corps of Engineer campground called Prairie Flower North. Our site is in the Astor loop number A26. This is an RV site. If you plan to camp in an RV, sites near this one are good. If you plan to tent camp, please contact Mike or Shari as you may be able to tent on one of the RV sites that others will have. Mike and Shari will be camped there July 31 and leave Aug 4. You can join us for the whole time or come when you can.

This area not only has water for boating, fishing and swimming but a multitude of biking and hiking trails.

It is easy to make reservation online at www.recreation.gov. Questions? Give us a call.

August 9—Osage County Lake canoe and breakfast potluck – John and Teresa Stambaugh – 862.6621

August 13—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka

August 16—Konza Prairie moonlight hike and bison viewing – Richard Johnson – 587.8731

August 16—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

August 23-27—Current River Canoe Trip – Ray & Patti Jordan

Leave on Saturday, float and camp for 3 days and return on Wednesday. More details later.

September 5—Lawrence Film festival – Mary Glanville – 234.4667

September 10—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka

September 12 - 14—Scott City State Lake car camp – Jan and Terese Hamilton – 633.9122

September 20—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

September 27 – 28—Kansas River overnight canoe float – John and Teresa Stambaugh – 862.6621

October 3 – 13—Fall Backpack

October 8—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka

October 18 - 20—Indian Cave car camp – Kate Sieverson – 817.7080

October 18—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

November 1—Lake Clinton Hike

November 8—Soup hike – Mike and Shari LaRue – 836.3167

November 12—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka

November 15—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

December 10—Annual Christmas potluck and election of officers.

December 20—Third Saturday Walk – 10:00 am - Denise Myers 785.806.5666 c

January 1, 2009—New Year's Day Hike, Welton Park, 9:30 am – Jon and Rosemary Ware – 266.2144

Prairie Packer Membership Event

We are starting this year off with tremendous energy and excitement! There are lots of great outdoor activities already scheduled for 2008. As many of you are aware our membership has remained fairly steady for the last several years. We would like to see this change with growth in new membership this year. With this in mind we will be sponsoring a membership event on April 12. We challenge every Prairie Packer to invite friends, family, colleagues and neighbors who have outdoor interests to attend this event. We need your help to grow our club. This will be a good introduction to one of the many outdoor activities we enjoy hiking Kansas trails.

Meet at the governors trail One SW Cedar Crest Road, upper parking lot, April 12 at 10:00 a.m. We will hike the trails and share information about our club. There will be food, drinks and trail prizes. If you can't make the hike plan to come for the food and fun. We look forward to seeing you all on April 12. Questions? Call Teresa or Terese. Prairie Packer Board Members

Trip Reports

Kansas Prairie Packer – St. Patrick's Day

By: Bailey Martinson (Editor's note, Bailey is 11, granddaughter of Shari & Mike)

On St. Patrick's Day it was very fun. We had to skip the parade but it was worth it. I got to spend the day with many nice people at Mary Glanville's house. There was wonderful soup, and microwavable bread with butter. We had all kinds of great deserts and pastries.

But my St. Patrick's Day was great because I got to be with many wonderful people and hear interesting stories about the trips that The Prairie Packer's have gone on. Even without the parade it was still a nice St. Patrick's Day!

So Thanks to everyone who joined the Prairie Packers and please keep on trying to add many **new** members to the Prairie Packers group. So keep up all the good work everyone is doing for the team and remember have a Happy St. Patrick's Day!!!!

From the kitchen of Teresa Stambaugh

Microwave English Muffin Bread

5 Cups All-purpose flour
1T. sugar
2 t. salt
¼ t. baking soda
2 pkgs. Rapid Rise Yeast
2 Cups Milk
½ cup water
Cornmeal

Set aside 1 cup flour. In large bowl, combine remaining flour, sugar, salt, soda and yeast. Heat liquids until very warm (125-130 degrees). Add to dry mixture, beat well. Stir in reserved flour to make stiff batter. Spoon into large glass loaf pan that has been greased and sprinkled with cornmeal. Sprinkle tops with cornmeal. Cover; microwave on medium

(50%) power 1 min. Let rest 10 min. Repeat cooking and resting allowing dough to double in size. (Usually only takes 2 times.) To bake; microwave loaf on high (100%) power for 6 min. Loaf will be pale in color. Allow to rest in pan 5 min. Remove and cool. Best toasted.

We were ready to march with a banner and a chant. Here is the chant so you can practice for next year:

Prairie Packers is our name,

Outdoor fun is our game.

Get your tent and get your gear,

You can get in shape this year.

You can paddle, you can hike,

You can even ride your bike.

Biking, Hiking, Outdoor Fun

Join us, we're for EVERYONE!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City, State,
Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Outdoor Interests _____

Send completed application and check for \$20.00 to:

Dave Dunford
2115 Harrison St
Topeka, KS 66611-1127

Please make submissions for the April newsletter so they are received by **Apr 24**.

If you have moved, please send your new address to Mike LaRue, 11300 S Stanley Rd, Overbrook, KS 66524.

- 62** Total Members
- 10** Comps
- 34** Newsletters via mail
- 28** Newsletters via e-mail

Prairie Packers Basecamp
11300 S Stanley Rd
Overbrook, KS 66524



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