Wheat State Whirlwind Tour to cover more than 1,000 miles in 5 days

For the 11th year, the University of Kansas will sponsor a whirlwind tour of Kansas for more than 40 faculty and staff members, many of whom are new to the state.

The Wheat State Whirlwind Tour will hit the road May 19-23, visiting more than 20 communities and passing through 30 counties while covering in excess of 1,000 miles of roadway. Stops include Topeka, Barnes, Marysville, Concordia, Lucas, Paleo, Goodland, Oakley, Ness City, Hudson, Dodge City, Spearville, Hutchinson, Inman, Yoder and Cottonwood Falls.

Participants on this year’s tour are professors, deans and staff members from the Lawrence campus; KU Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan.; KU School of Medicine-Wichita; and the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, a division of KU Continuing Education.

Chancellor Robert Hemenway, who started the Wheat State Whirlwind Tour, said the annual trip is an invaluable experience for the participants.

“Year after year, the tour has proven to be an outstanding way for KU faculty and staff to get out and learn firsthand what makes this great state tick,” Hemenway said. “They not only learn about its history, landscape and economy, they get a better understanding of where KU’s students come from and meet some great people along the way.”

Hemenway will travel with the tour Monday, May 19. He will join the group in Marysville and depart from Concordia.

Highlights of this year’s tour include the Brown v. Board of Education Historical Site in Topeka, Landoll Corp. in Marysville, Lake Wilson, the historic African-American pioneer community Nicodemus, a ride with buffalo in Scott County, Fort Larned, the Underground Salt Museum in Hutchinson and the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center near Yoder.

New stops on this year’s tour include an overnight stay in Goodland, a tour of the Ness City bank known as the “Skyscraper of the Plains,” the Spearville Wind Farm and lunch at the Wheatland Cafe in Hudson. A dinner with alumni in northeast Kansas will be held Tuesday, May 20, at the Prairie Castle/Kuhrt Ranch in Edson. Three of the “Eight Wonders of Kansas” are on the itinerary: Monument Rocks in Gove County, the Underground Salt Museum in Hutchinson and the Flint Hills.

The tour will be in Lucas on Tuesday, May 20th.

To view daily itineraries, maps of this year’s route and photos of previous tours, visit www.wheatstate.ku.edu. During the tour, visit www.ku.edu for a blog detailing the experiences of this year’s tour participants, photos from stops and updates on the tour.
Educator and historian Elizabeth Verschelden will present the program "Making Somewhere Out of Nowhere: Waterville, Kansas; The First Twenty Years" at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Waterville Community Center.

There is no admission charge. The program is sponsored by the Waterville Public Library and the Marshall County Railroad Historical Society and is made possible by a grant from the Wilson Fund.

Mid-19th century Marshall County was sparsely settled, but the conclusion of the Civil War and the building of the Union Pacific's Central Branch Railroad across the southern part of the county fostered a line of communities built around Central Branch depots and designed to serve as market towns for farmers who would emigrate to the area in search of land. Verschelden will discuss the considerations faced by Waterville's first settlers between 1860 when Kansas was still a territory, and 1880 when the city and its surrounding township boasted almost 2,000 people.

The pressing first-settlement municipal issues of those days would be recognized today: attracting new people and businesses to town, selling town lots, building a school, developing infrastructure and finding the money to pay for it all in the face of drought, grasshopper invasions, constant economic uncertainty and two national depressions.

The Central Branch Railroad and The Waterville Telegraph were key players in this tumultuous period. Verschelden earned a doctorate in American history at the University of Kansas, and the Waterville program will be based on her dissertation study of school-building along the Central Branch Railroad from Atchison to Cawker City.

She received a master's degree in adult education from Kansas State University and a bachelor's in elementary education from the State University of New York at Cortland.

She has taught in elementary schools in New York, Chicago and Nigeria, English as a second language classes in Nigeria and Manhattan, graduate classes in adult education at KSU and undergraduate American history survey courses at KU.

As an administrator, she directed the Manhattan Adult Learning Center and was dean of continuing education at Garden City Community College.

She currently is a docent at the Kansas Museum of History and is a judge at the Kansas History Day final competitions.
Two area students were among the University of Kansas design students who took home awards at the 2008 Dallas Society of Visual Communications National Student Show and Conference April 3 to 5.

Chi Hiu Yim, a senior from Centralia and Hong Kong, won $125 for Best in Photography for her showcase of photos from a study abroad trip to China and an additional $250 for Judge's Choice for her photo "The Abandoned Goal."

She was one of four design students who won a $125 award for Kiosk magazine design, a group project.

She is the daughter of Chun and Si-Kuk Yim of Hong Kong and is a graduate of Centralia High School.

Laura Rottinghaus, Baileyville, a senior in design, also was in the group that won the project category for Kiosk magazine design.

She is the daughter of Bob and Annette Rottinghaus and is a graduate of B&B High School.
Laura Rottinghaus to be among top scholars honored at KU

Laura A Rottinghaus, Baileyville, a senior at the University of Kansas, will be among the more than 165 members of the class of 2008 who will be recognized as top scholars during commencement at the University of Kansas May 18.

Rottinghaus is the daughter of Bob and Annette Rottinghaus and is majoring in design. She will graduate with a bachelor of fine arts degree. She is an Elizabeth M. Watkins-Emily Berger Scholar.

Rottinghaus is a graduate of B & B High School. Each year, KU awards its most prized four-year scholarships to students whose academic records and other qualifications make them eligible for selection.

These students are Chancellors Club Scholars, Elizabeth M. Watkins-Emily Berger Scholars, Solon E. Summerfield Scholars, Endowment Meritorious Scholars, National Merit Scholars, National Hispanic Scholars and National Achievement Scholars. KU Endowment manages the funds for these scholarships.

Elizabeth M. Watkins-Emily Berger and Solon E. Summerfield scholarships provide $3,000 a year for four years to 100 Kansas high school graduates in recognition of their outstanding high school academic achievements and records of community service and leadership.

Watkins-Berger scholarships for women are financed by the estate of Elizabeth M. Watkins of Lawrence and an endowment in memory of Emily Berger, a KU graduate, by her brother, the late Arthur Berger of Dallas.

Marysville Advocate
Marysville, KS
Circ. 5255
From Page: 5c
5/8/2008
31486
More than 40 University of Kansas faculty and staff members will visit sites in Marysville, Barnes, Concordia, Manhattan and Topeka on May 19, the first day of the 2008 Wheat State Whirlwind Tour.

The tour, which is in its 11th year, will take participants to more than 20 communities and cover more than 1,000 miles. It’s sponsored by Chancellor Robert Hemenway and gives participants a firsthand look at Kansas economy, landscape, history and culture.

For the first time, tour participants will share their impressions of the tour via a daily blog. The blog, online at www.wheatstate.ku.edu/blog, will detail the experiences of this year’s participants, feature photos from stops and include updates on the tour.

This year’s tour will kick off with a visit to the Brown v. Board of Education National Historical Site. The site, situated at Topeka’s Monroe School, commemorates the landmark Supreme Court decision that led to the desegregation of America’s public schools. Deborah Dandridge, field archivist for the African-American collections in KU’s Spencer Research Library Kansas Collection and Topeka native, will address the group.

From Topeka, the group will travel to Manhattan, where participants will tour the Kansas State University campus. The bus will then hit the road for Barnes in Washington County to lunch at Our Daily Bread Shop.

The next stop is in Marshall County, where the group will tour the Landoll Corp. Don Landoll, president, chairman and founder, will speak to the group about the internationally known company’s design, manufacture and marketing of transportation and agricultural equipment. Landoll will also lead a tour through the company’s Marysville plant.

From Marysville, the group will proceed to Washington to visit KSDS. Larry Stoppel, a KU alumnus and local optometrist, will meet with the group to talk about the community and what makes it unique.

The tour bus will make its next stop in Concordia.
Patricia Barker of Minneapolis will be among the more than 165 members of the Class of 2008 to be recognized as top scholars during commencement at the University of Kansas on May 18.

Patricia, the daughter of Steven and Pamela Barker, was a Watkins-Berger scholarship recipient for the past four years. The Elizabeth M. Watkins-Emily Berger scholarships provide $3,000 a year for four years to 100 Kansas high school graduates in recognition of their outstanding high school academic achievements and records of community service and leadership.
Joe, Suzanne Collins to present Snake Stories during Kaw Missions program

The fourth program in the Kaw Mission Councils 2008 educational program series, Our Fabulous Flint Hills: The Hills Are Alive! features Joe & Suzanne Collins presenting Snake Stories. The program will be presented at 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 17th at the Kaw Mission State Historic Site in Council Grove, Kansas. All Kaw Mission Councils 2008 programs are free and open to the public.

Joseph T. Collins has written more books about Kansas wildlife than any other person in the history of the state. He has published over 260 articles on reptiles, turtles, amphibians, and fishes throughout North America and has written twenty-three books. In Snake Stories, Collins will talk about snakes and how people perceive and react to them. His presentation will be peppered with humorous anecdotes about people and their interaction with snakes.

Joe Collins is the editor of Mammals in Kansas and Birds in Kansas (two volumes). These three books, along with Amphibians and Reptiles in Kansas and Fishes in Kansas, are a complete set of vertebrate field guides for Kansas.

In 1978, Collins served as president of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, the leading international professional society in that field, as president of the Kansas Association of Biology Teachers (1980-1981), and as president of the Kansas Herpetological Society (1983). He was chosen the University of Kansas Employee of the Year (1979), was honored as the Kansas Wildlife Federation's Conservationist of the Year in 1986, was the 1989 recipient of the Kansas Herpetological Society's Bronze Salamander Award for distinguished service, was designated (1996) an honorary life member of the Texas Herpetological Society, was invested and proclaimed by Governor Bill Graves as The Wildlife Author Laureate of Kansas in April 1996, and was honored with the Kansas Wildlife Federation Presidential Award for distinguished service during 1997. He was a distinguished delegate to the First World Congress of Herpetology at Canterbury, England, in 1989, and was made a Distinguished Life Member of the Kansas Herpetological Society in 1998.

Joseph T. Collins is Adjunct Herpetologist for the Kansas Biological Survey, Herpetologist Emeritus for the Natural History Museum at The University of Kansas, Adjunct Curator of Herpetology for the Sternberg Museum of Natural History at Fort Hays State University, and Director of The Center for North American Herpetology (a non-profit 501c3 foundation).

The Friends of Kaw Heritage, Inc. and Kansas Historical Society sponsor the Kaw Mission Councils 2008 educational program series. Free refreshments compliments of FKH. For additional information contact the Kaw Mission State Historic Site at 620-767-5410, e-mail kawmission@khs.org. Group reservations are recommended.
Bethany College student Tessa Howard, Sharon Springs, Kansas, has been selected as the alternate winner of the Glenn T. Seaborg Science Award for 2008 by the Swedish Council of America.

Howard will graduate May 25 with a degree in biology. She then will study at the University of Kansas School of Medicine.

The Glenn T. Seaborg Science Award is named to honor Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, chemist and Nobel laureate who discovered, or co-discovered, numerous atomic elements, including atomic element number 106, officially named "Seaborgium" in his honor.

The annual award honors a junior or senior student majoring in the sciences at one of six Swedish-American colleges in the country with a week-long trip to Stockholm, including participation in the Nobel Prize ceremony.

It is awarded based on the student’s academic achievement, creative potential and ability to conduct independent research.

During the summer of 2006, Howard participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) in a molecular biosciences laboratory at the University of Kansas, where she assisted the team of Dr. James Orr in investigating neural mechanisms that regulate heart and blood vessel function.

Howard then was co-author of a poster presentation, "Characterization of Thromboxane Receptor Expression in Cultured Sensory Neurons," which she helped present at the 2007 Experimental Biology Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., an interdisciplinary, scientific meeting drawing more than 12,000 scientists from around the world.

Currently, Howard is a pre-medical volunteer at JayDoc Community Clinic, a community health clinic for low-income families in Wichita. At Bethany College, she is a member of the Honors Program, TriBeta Biological Honor Society, Bio-Chem Club, Gold Key Women’s Honor Society, Campus Ministries, Peer Ministry and the Ally group. She has worked as a biology laboratory assistant and co-founded the school’s chapter of Habitat for Humanity.
German Awards

Medal winners at the Annual German Schuelerkongress at K.U.
- Thomas Voigt, 4th year German, in Spelling
- Vicky Voigt, first year German, in Poetry Recitation

New members in Delta Epsilon Phi, Honorary Society for Students of German at the high School level:
- Amber Hopkins
- Courtney Howe
- Rebecca Johnson
- Sarah Kellogg
- Ian Lackey
- Paul Masterson
Area students chosen as Girls/Boys State Representatives

Each year the area High School selects female and/or male students from the junior class to attend Sunflower Girls State as their representative. The delegate is chosen based on their leadership qualities, honesty, good character, maturity, cooperativeness, scholarship and interest in government.

The girls will be attending the 66th Annual Sunflower Girls State, June 1-6, 2008, on the campus of The University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. Girls State is designed to be a practical application of Americanism and good citizenship. Sunflower Girls State develops leadership and pride in American citizenship, educates its delegates about our system of government, instills a greater understanding of American traditions and stimulates a desire to actively participate in our government process.

The boys will be attending the 71st Annual American Legion Boys State of Kansas, June 1-7, on the campus of Kansas State University, in Manhattan, Kansas. Boys State provides a relevant, interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self identity promotes mutual respect and instills civic responsibility.

The delegate for Girls State chosen from Galena High School is Kjersti McDonald, daughter of Keith and Karalee McDonald, Galena. Kjersti is sponsored by the Galena High School Student Council. The delegate for Boys State chosen from Galena High School is Stephen Derfelt, son of Jerry and Peggy Derfelt, Galena. Stephen is sponsored by the Galena Fire Department.

The delegate for Girls State chosen from Riverton High School is Keeley Hail, daughter of Dennis and Melody Hail, Riverton. Riverton PTO is sponsoring Keeley.

The delegate for Boys State chosen from Riverton is Nathan Spriggs, son of Larry and Carol Spriggs, Galena.

The delegate for Girls State chosen from Baxter High School is Mel-ly Crow, daughter of John and Dianna Crow. The Baxter Springs Lions Club is sponsoring Mel-ly. They will pay her expenses to attend Girls State.

The delegates from Columbus High School are Macy Engoff, daughter of Bill and Karen Engoff, Columbus. Jaymie Zook, daughter of Jim and Leanna Zook, Columbus. The American Legion Auxiliary #003 and Cherokee County Fair Board. They will pay the expenses for the girls.

The Columbus representative for Boys State is Eric Robison, son of Rob Robison and Laura Findahl, Columbus. Eric is sponsored by Crossland Construction.

All of the delegates and their High Schools would like to thank all of the sponsors for this opportunity.